

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS***Latin America*

Vol VI No 019

27 January 1984

ARGENTINA

President Alfonsin Pledges Economic Recovery	B 1
Government Economic Plan Detailed	B 2
Grinspun Says Government May Turn to Paris Club	B 6
Beagle Talks Begin; Caputo Meets Andreotti	B 6
Editorials Stress Need for Beagle Solution	B 7
Paraguayan Official on Human Rights, Yacyreta	B 7
Official Comments on New World Information Order	B 9
Interior Minister on Stability, Missing Documents	B 9

BOLIVIA

Government, Labor Clash Over Wage Scale	C 1
More Join Hunger Strike	C 1
'Agreement in Principle'	C 1

BRAZIL

Freeze on U.S. Nuclear Negotiations Denied	D 1
Sao Paulo Rally for Direct Elections Peaceful	D 1
Poll Shows 81 Percent Favor Direct Elections	D 1

COLOMBIA

Army Rescues Kidnapped Rancher, Kills Rebels	F 1
Police Unit Accused of Murders, Kidnappings	F 1
Peasants Occupy Bucaramanga Government Building	F 1
Briefs: Oil Production	F 2

PERU

Police, Students Clash Over Fare Hike, Law	J 1
Senator Accuses Left	J 1
Two Students Die	J 1
President Threatens Guarantees Suspension	J 1

MEXICO

Venezuelan Energy Minister-Designate Holds Talks	M 1
Venezuela To Obey San Jose Pact [EL DIA 25 Jan]	M 1
Cooperation 'Should Be Extended'	M 1
Briefs: Inflationary Spiral Decreases	M 1

PANAMA

Commentator Explains New Torrijist Movement	N 1
ORIT Official Discusses Grenada Issue	N 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Monge Says U.S. Intervention Favorable to Area	P 1
[LA REPUBLICA 17 Jan]	
U.S. Development Plans Postponed for 'Security'	P 1
New Envoy to U.S., Planning Minister Confirmed	P 1

EL SALVADOR

Presidential Candidates Speak at Roundtable	P 2
Constituent Assembly Approves Constitution	P 3
[LA NACION INTERNACIONAL 19-25 Jan]	

GUATEMALA

Andrade Calls Kissinger Report Important	P 15
[PRENSA LIBRE 25 Jan]	
Presidential Palace Hit by Grenades 26 Jan	P 16

HONDURAS

President Says Central America Crisis 'Critical'	P 16
Joint Military Maneuvers With U.S. Approved	P 17
Paz Barnica Denies Miskito Massacre Charge	P 18
Foreign Secretariat Announces Refugee Relocation	P 19

NICARAGUA

D. Ortega Discusses U.S. Policy, C.A. Issues	P 20
Reagan's State of Union Address Reported	P 21
Foreign Minister Sends Protest to Honduras	P 22
Opposition Calls for Talks Including Somozists	P 22
Portugal's Cunhal Comments on Elections, Leaves	P 23
Electoral Commission Issues Official Communique	P 23
Voice of Sandino on Opposition 'Secret Document'	P 24

CUBA

Commentators React to State of Union Message	Q 1
Message Topics Reported	Q 3
Speech 'Deceives' Nobody	Q 3
Rodriguez Received in Kremlin by Ivan Arkhipov	Q 4
Arrives in Sofia	Q 4
Talks Begin with Vietnamese Trade Delegation	Q 4
Cooperation Agreements Signed With Spain	Q 5
Cunhal Arrives From Nicaragua, Lauds Revolution	Q 5
Hart Meets With Polish Culture Minister	Q 5
Crombet Speaks at Food Industry Workers' Event	Q 5
ANC, SWAPO Representatives Meet Australians	Q 6
U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica Stirs Controversy	Q 6
Rivalry Seen Among Salvadoran Political Parties	Q 6
Nicaragua Adds Parties to State Council	Q 7
Political Parties Law Approved	Q 8
Speedboat Attack on Nicaragua From U.S. Ships	Q 8
Colombian President Meets With FMLN-FDR Member	Q 8

Attacks, Strikes, 'Repression' Continue in Peru	Q 9
Investigation of Peruvian Newsmen's Murder Asked	Q 9
Mexico Opposes Restrictive U.S. Economic Policy	Q 9
SELA's Alegrett Raps IMF Adjustments, Programs	Q 9
Mexico's Labastida Voices Stand on Oil Producers	Q 10
Panamanian Intellectuals To Host Amity Events	Q 10
Briefs: Vilma Espin Reelected; Cosmonaut at Palace; Decoration of Internationalists	Q 10

CARIBBEAN

Caricom Member Countries Meet on Trade Issues	S 1
27-28 Jan Caricom Meeting Delegations Announced	S 1
ECCB Says No Devaluation of Dollar Planned	S 2
EEC Delegation Touring EEC-Financed Projects	S 2

BARBADOS

Drilling Success Makes 1984 Oil Exports Possible	S 2
--	-----

DOMINICA

Charles Says Leftists Seek Help To Oust Her	S 3
President To Attend Venezuelan Inauguration	S 4

GRENADA

U.S. Funds To Improve Electricity, Water	S 4
--	-----

HAITI

UN Human Rights Experts To Meet With Duvalier	S 4
---	-----

JAMAICA

Shearer, Vaz To Attend Caricom Meeting in Guyana	S 4
--	-----

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Country To Seek UN Security Council Seat	S 5
Economy Weakens Due to Fall in Oil Prices	S 6

SURINAME

Cabinet Installation Delayed at Unions' Request	U 1
SNA Reports Creation of Seven-Member Committee	U 1
Former Adviser to Bouterse Interviewed [cross-reference]	U 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Haitian Exiles Accuse Police of Harassment V 1

PARAGUAY

President Meets New Salvadoran Attache V 1

Opposition Leader Travels on Argentine Documents V 1

URUGUAY

Antigovernment Demonstration Staged in Montevideo V 1

VENEZUELA

Herrera Defends Economic Policy to Congress V 2

Briefs: Reshuffle of Army Commanders V 2

PRESIDENT ALFONSIN PLEDGES ECONOMIC RECOVERY

PY270227 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Speech delivered by President Raul Alfonsin on 26 January at the dedication of the International Private Investment Section of the Buenos Aires Provincial Bank -- recorded]

[Text] [In progress]... because dictatorships have never tried to overcome the problems arising from our dependence. There are, however, two contradictory forces that will set our course: democracy or dependence. [applause]

We are taking the first steps in a creative effort that will lead us toward freedom and toward the participation of everyone.

We obviously understand that not all the consequences of authoritarianism have disappeared; intellectual consequences still remain. For example, the idea that no economic plan can be designed without placing all the burden of reconstructing the economy on the have-nots; that no economic plan can be regarded as serious if it does not condemn the poorer to substandard conditions, if it does not force workers to tighten their belts, or if it does not cause salary declines and unemployment. If this is the kind of plan that they are expecting, I will state right now that my government will formulate no economic plan. [applause]

We have clearly defined our commitment. We will fight inflation. We cannot build our future with these inflation rates. No social justice can be achieved while inflation razes the Argentine labor sectors.

At the same time, we shall cause real salaries to grow and the Argentine economy to expand. [applause]

The technocrats of failure, those who have witnessed Argentina's misfortune, are scared and tell us that these are incompatible objectives. We disagree; we know that it is a challenge, but we shall meet it. Moreover, we tell them that we have already begun the struggle to achieve those goals.

Of course, we are aware of all the obstacles that we shall have to overcome, of all the difficulties that we shall encounter. But we shall succeed in leading our nation to the level at which it must remain within the international community. This will be accomplished through a joint effort, an effort that will be demanded from everyone, according to his own capabilities, and with due respect for social justice, an essential foundation of our conception of democracy.

There can be no democracy in Argentina if we do not comply with the demands of the have-nots. We are obviously aware that we cannot satisfy everyone. As we put it during our campaign, we cannot give everything we would like to give to workers. But we do pledge that real salaries will improve month after month, because public spending will be reallocated, channeling larger resources toward education, culture, health, and housing. [applause]

We have listened to the complaints from the various sectors. They might be right. We would like not to have to increase taxes. We would like things to run smoothly in our country. But it is absurd to expect something like this. We should act as if we were emerging from a war, and we have to understand that even though death belongs to the past, that tears must belong to the past, a future of hard work lies ahead of all Argentines without exception. [applause]

We shall turn our country into the nation that we deserve; we shall succeed. It will be the Argentine miracle, and it will be achieved not through the work of shortsighted technocrats who are carrying out in-depth analyses of the various economic theories; it will be achieved because it is a decision made by people who want to stand up before a world that will witness the great capabilities of Argentina. Thank you very much.
[applause]

Government Economic Plan Detailed

PY260200 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2325 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] The constitutional government has issued its economic program, which will be implemented immediately and will include a 6 to 8 percent increase in real salaries for 1984; an estimated monthly inflation rate of 4 percent until December 1984; and interest rates on loans and savings ranging from 4.8 to 4 percent, respectively.

Basic objectives of the official government economic policy are "the battle against inflation," the renegotiation of the foreign debt, the reactivation of the economy, and the increase of real salaries within the framework of an equal distribution of income.

It adds that "an equal distribution of income will in the short term increase demand and hence production."

The extensive document reasserts positions that were disclosed by main government officials, even during the electoral campaign, but it does not include specific measures.

The text of the document, which is 35 pages long, is entitled "Guidelines of an Economic Program for an Immediate Economic Reactivation, Improvement of the Employment Situation, and of Real Salaries, and an Attack Against the Scourge of Inflation."

The government notes that the "main characteristic" of its program is that it "simultaneously confronts the battle against inflation and the reactivation of the economy through a cautious expansion of credit to promote demand and to favor production enterprises and by enforcing measures that will allow for a better distribution of income."

After noting that these proposals make up "the first stage of an immediate economic program, which must be followed by others," the declaration notes that the executive branch "will act with great flexibility of criteria both to make necessary changes in keeping with the national situation and in answer to constructive suggestions and criticisms."

In the first part of the text, it is noted that the government "has inherited a very serious crisis" with "an exhausted productive sector," "a shattered economy," and a "per capita income below that of 1970," with a "distorted financial system" and "social unity that is seriously threatened,"

It states that it is appropriate to note "that a formidable element" to confront this situation is the "will of the Argentine people to end a decadent stage, one of privileges and authoritarianism, and to restore democratic institutions."

It reasserts that "those who have more have to make a greater contribution and those who have less must cooperate to the measure of their capabilities" and it places the program "under the auspices of national solidarity."

It adds that the decrease of the government deficit is considered the basis of the struggle against inflation and that it "means a decrease in public spending and an increase in tax collections" and it warns that this is "unavoidable and very difficult" in view of the present national situation.

The chapter entitled "Basic Parts of an Action Program" proposes "a radical change in the monetary policy." It adds that "the inflationary issuance of money, which was caused by the deficit, has increased nominal interest rates thus increasing costs for enterprises and consequently causing an increase in prices."

It notes that "the recovery of real salaries is a priority issue" but it warns that "it is counterproductive to do it by promoting the inflationary spiral." It adds that "on the contrary it should be done by decreasing financial costs, particularly real financial costs."

The government believes that "it has been a mistake to try to compensate for the inflationary issuance of money to cover government deficits by restricting credits to the private sector."

It notes that "economic activity must be motivated by specific measures and by a prudent credit expansion aimed at promoting demand and increasing the working capital of enterprises."

In view of this, the government estimates that the GDP may increase 5 percent during 1984, which "in addition to its other favorable effects will have a positive influence on the decrease of the deficit."

As for the government deficit, the document reasserts the government's intention of decreasing it from the 14 percent of the GDP that it totaled last year to 4 percent by December 1984.

Regarding a decrease in government spending, it is noted that "at this time there is a study underway to view the possibility of a decrease in government spending," and it adds that the main objective is to decrease "the military budget" since it "increased at the expense of the social budget."

It is also noted that there are a large number of enterprises in which the government had intervened and which are "generally operating at a loss." It adds that it is "necessary to liquidate them or to turn them over to the private sector in view of the impact that they may have on the unemployment situation."

The government program emphasizes the control of the Central Bank's issuance of money which will be decreased from an average of 12.5 percent per month in 1983 to 5 percent by December 1984.

Another objective will be to reduce the deficit in the Monetary Regulation Account, to be attained "by lowering the banks' legal reserve, thus making it possible to grant more credit to the private sector as financing to the government is reduced."

In dealing with the earnings policy, the program notes that the private sector will have to "adjust itself in an orderly manner to the projected evolution of other variables, and, to bring that situation about, it will be necessary to have a broad earnings policy."

The control of relative prices is noted as a prerequisite, and that "soon instruments for a concerted policy must be put in place so that enterprises can add real cost increases to prices, but without including higher cost expectations."

The program calls for "enterprises to submit their needs for working capital and to justify any price increases above established limits, by revealing whether such increases are caused by domestic or imported inputs, or by salary raises, and do so in order to hold costs down."

It is indicated that "increases at a decelerating rate will be implemented as real financial costs decline, and utilization of idle capacity climbs."

Regarding credit expansion, the government warns that "it will exercise great prudence, because any departure from the objectives set" could throw the program off course.

The text of the program that says that during 1983 "the enterprises' earnings have improved thanks to the recovery registered in economic activities, and especially because the demand for imports has been switched to domestic production by means of foreign exchange readjustments."

Under the interest rates heading, the document indicates that "the decrease in prices and the reduction in the banks' operational costs could bring interest rates by the end of 1984 down to 4 percent per month on deposits, and to 4.8 percent per month on loans, with an inflation rate on the order of 4 percent per month."

The document again refers to real salaries, stating that the decline in financial costs "will make it possible to raise average real salaries in the private sector without increasing costs, that is, without having inflationary consequences."

The document notes that "it is estimated that from late 1983 to late 1984 interest rates will have a real decrease of approximately 8 percent."

"Over the same period, real salary increases should be from 6 to 8 percent. In balancing downward interest rates and upward real salaries, any difference between those figures, along with other cost reductions, should make it possible for enterprises to absorb the salary increases."

Referring to the financial system, the document reports that the losses of financial institutions represent "about 30 percent of the loans, that is, little more than 50 percent of their capital and reserves on the average. In view of these losses, the operation of financial institutions must be tidied up."

Regarding the foreign debt, which was estimated at \$43.6 billion late in 1983, the document states that it does not represent an excessive burden in relation to the country's economic potential, "but its servicing does."

The problem lies with "the relatively short time periods and the very high interest rates," in addition to the fact that only a relatively small portion of it corresponds to productive investments that could result in future export increases or in a rational substitution of imports."

The government emphasizes that it is inconceivable that Argentina or "any other debtor country" should restrict essential imports in order to meet heavy financial commitments, thus creating serious social and economic problems internally."

The document reiterates the country's determination to fulfill its obligations, but it notes the need for "cooperation from the governments of creditor countries," branding the problem as "eminently political" because of its nature.

In the long chapter devoted to economic recovery, the program points out that "the noninflationary salary improvements in 1984 will constitute an active element in the growth of effective aggregate demand."

After expressing that "it will be essential to avoid foreign exchange overvaluation or undervaluation," the document states that "the economic reactivation will initially benefit from the housing and agricultural expansion programs."

The document notes that "we have retreated to the situation in which we found ourselves at the beginning of the previous decade," pointing out that "the average real salaries that could be achieved with effort by the end of 1984 will still be lower than those in 1970."

The government promises that "a 5-percent growth of the gross national product will be attained, but warns that such an achievement will only mark the beginning of a vigorous development policy that should follow the recovery phase."

This year's exports are estimated at \$9 billion, and imports are estimated at \$3.5 billion. Thus the balance of trade surplus will be \$3.5 billion, which will allow us to pay "only a portion of the interest on the foreign debt while arrangements are made for solving the problem definitively."

The economic program also devotes a long chapter to "the regressive tax system and its indispensable reform," contending that "the principle of equity has completely disappeared from the Argentine tax system." It states: "The tax burden has become as regressive as it can be, thus mostly on the mass of the population, which has not only seen their real salaries shrink but has also suffered from the reduction of social expenditures."

The most indispensable and urgent of the needed modifications pertain to personal income and assets. The document repeats the arguments that were made in the request for tax measures submitted to Congress, and affirms that "high income sectors will no longer unjustly escape taxes that are in keeping with their ability to pay."

The document notes the need to modify the value added tax law, banning its application to some foods and medicines. It also gives notice that the tax collection system will be improved through "the utilization of the most modern means to control income tax declarations."

However, it observes that the increased revenues obtained will not be enough to rapidly reduce the fiscal deficit because of "the precarious situation of the country's economy." The document adds, "Therefore, it will be necessary to impose new taxes in order to obtain more revenues immediately, although they will not have a progressive effect." This mainly refers to the "adjustment of gasoline prices," noting that "this is necessary, regardless of the fiscal situation, because of the balance of payments considerations in the event that the need for importing fuel arises. There are only two alternatives to prevent that need from arising: rationing or increasing prices."

In the last part of the long document, the government stresses the fact that the announced guidelines are "the first phase of the immediate program," and promises it "will act with flexibility of criterion" in confronting changes in the situation and in "responding to suggestions and constructive observations."

GRINSPUN SAYS GOVERNMENT MAY TURN TO PARIS CLUB

PY261842 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2302 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (TELAM) -- Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun today informed the diplomatic representatives of the member countries of the Paris Club that the Argentine Government is studying the possibility of resorting to that organization to solve the foreign debt problem.

The economy minister made this announcement to the ambassadors and commercial attaches of the Paris Club member countries at the same time that the Argentine Government sent an official note to the president of that international organization, Michael Chamdessus. The minister pointed out to the journalists that the government still has not officially resorted to the Paris Club but is analyzing the need to do so.

At the end of the meeting, which lasted about 15 minutes, the economy minister disclosed the announcements made to his visitors and at the same time denied that any eventual negotiations with the Paris Club represent by any means an alternative to the IMF negotiations. He pointed out that the negotiations are complementary. Minister Grinspun said that one must hold talks not only with the IMF, the World Bank, the Paris Club, or private bankers, but that one should also hold talks with the member countries of the financial community.

When asked why the foreign debt was regarded as a political issue, Minister Grinspun answered: "It is a question that I do not understand because all the problems undertaken by the government are of a political nature."

The minister added that the government has appointed eight subcommittees to determine the amount of the foreign debt. This gives an idea of the technical task that has to be carried out, pointing out that this is a step that comes before others have to be taken.

Regarding the negotiations with the IMF, the minister pointed out that there are no further developments on our request to de Larroisiere to send routine missions to our country. We believe that these missions should arrive in Argentina about the first week of February.

BEAGLE TALKS BEGIN; CAPUTO MEETS ANDREOTTI

PY261227 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has conferred with his Italian counterpart, Giulio Andreotti. During their meeting, Andreotti said that he would use his good offices with the EEC to gain its support for Argentina and to assist it in its economic recovery and in restructuring its public finances.

Argentine and Chilean delegations have started their meetings to seek an agreement that will end the Beagle Channel dispute. The main obstacle to be overcome in these meetings concerns the delimitation of maritime borders. Argentina wants close adherence to the two-ocean principle. Our delegates are also trying to set up a mechanism to permit a joint solution between the parties involved, leaving out third parties. They are also working on navigational rights around Tierra del Fuego.

EDITORIALS STRESS NEED FOR BEAGLE SOLUTION

PY270244 [Editorial Report] Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish on page 16 of its 24 January issue carries a 700-word editorial entitled "Peace and Friendship With Chile." It begins by pointing out that the recent Argentine-Chilean declaration signed at the Vatican represents a positive step on the road toward the ultimate solution to the conflict, especially considering that the two countries were at one time close to an armed confrontation, which would have been disastrous because these two neighbors have so much to gain by cooperating with one another.

After saying that the declaration showed that the most serious differences may have been smoothed out, the editorial states that "the work to complete a treaty will be important, as will be the information provided to the public on the nature of the problem, and on its historical and present aspects. For 10 years now we have been advising that the Beagle problem should be handled 'as adults,' that is, to bring the dispute out from behind closed doors where wrong decisions have been so frequently made so that the public could be kept informed about it. The return of Argentina to political legitimacy will now make it possible for the final treaty to be examined and debated by the people's representatives in Congress."

The editorial comments: "We cannot continue being entangled in a conflict which dates back to the 19th century. The cards have been laid on the table. Public opinion now, and history later, will tell whether the cards were played well or not, and will deal out the responsibilities accordingly. Diplomacy will have to do its best to secure a position that is as much as possible consonant with the Argentine criterion, which is shared by all sectors, that our sovereignty encompasses the Atlantic, and Chilean sovereignty embraces the Pacific. But certainly what is imperative is to reach a border treaty which is just and honorable for the two countries."

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish on page 6 of its 6 January issue publishes an editorial, under the title "Peace and Friendship Declaration," on the Argentine-Chilean commitment to reach a final agreement on the Beagle conflict, within the framework of the Vatican mediation.

After reviewing the background of the conflict, the editorial stresses the point of keeping the public well informed on developments in the last phase of the mediation of a final treaty: "Now that the mediation moves into its final stage, the public must be provided with as much information as possible on the points under debate and the decisions made. The effort which the government should make in translating the terms of the papal proposal into a sovereign agreement between the parties will not bear fruit without a consensus of opinion and, of course, without congressional backing."

The editorial finally warns: "The papal proposal is neither an arbitration award nor a judgment, but an instrument to make possible the accommodation of interests, and to satisfy the aspirations of both parties. The mediator has presented his proposal in the conviction that it is a useful one, and it is incumbent upon the government to give the public assurances that, in its view, it is a sensible proposal."

PARAGUAYAN OFFICIAL ON HUMAN RIGHTS, YACYRETA

PY262312 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1747 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Jan (DYN) -- Paraguayan Vice Foreign Minister Rodney Elpidio Acevedo has "categorically" denied that Raul Alfonsin's electoral victory has led the Paraguayan Government to make political changes.

Acevedo remarked that his country has undergone an uninterrupted process of institutional improvement for the last 30 years, and that this has placed Paraguay "at the forefront of democracy in America."

Acevedo, who arrived in Argentina today to attend a meeting of the Yacyreta binational organization, reported that the organization's budget for 1984 is estimated at \$500 million. He also categorically rejected the charges that human rights are violated in Paraguay, and justified the measures adopted by the Paraguayan Government "in defense of our tranquillity and internal peace."

When he was told at Ezeiza that the election of Raul Alfonsin as Argentine president brought about political changes in Paraguay, Acevedo replied: "I can categorically deny that statement." "For the last 30 years," he went on, "our political history has witnessed a clear institutional improvement that has benefited our country."

He said that the criticism aimed at the government of General Alfredo Stroessner "neither disappoints us nor changes our plans and aspirations to improve even more our country's democratic institutions."

He stressed that from 1945 to date, Paraguay "has not been under foreign pressure either to improve or to let our democratic institutions deteriorate."

Concerning the charges about the obstacles that exiles encounter when trying to return home, particularly opposition leader Fomingo Laino, Acevedo replied that his government has "never closed the borders to opposition members."

He noted that "some people left for various reasons and have been unwilling to return, but at no time have the doors been closed to those who want to participate peacefully." He claimed that "there has been information and disinformation. All countries welcome participation, provided it is adjusted to the institutions of a state of law." "No democratic country," he went on, "can afford to let political ambition and greed prevail. All activities must be undertaken within the law. Disrespect for the law calls for the adoption of measures which are necessary to preserve the people's rights."

Concerning the criticism involving alleged human rights violations in Paraguay, a charge that was also leveled by Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel, he said that "our answer is that our doors are always open to those who want to become acquainted with our real situation."

"Once they have become aware of the situation," he went on, those persons may criticize, "provided they are not driven by interests that are based on preconceptions or that are influenced by people who do not want to go to Paraguay to become familiar with its real situation."

On the specific case of Perez Esquivel, who was not allowed to enter Paraguay, Acevedo said: "I'd rather not pass judgment on the matter, particularly because he participates in Argentine politics. I would prefer not to give an opinion."

"But," he stressed, "we do not have the right -- and we exercise it whenever we deem it necessary -- to defend our tranquillity and internal peace."

Regarding the Yacyreta budget for 1984, which is to be analyzed in Buenos Aires, Acevedo explained that it will be formulated "in keeping with the two countries' possibilities of contracting more loans, particularly Argentina, which must guarantee the international loans that will eventually be obtained and which must supply the necessary resources for the implementation of the project."

When asked about reports that the houses built for Yacyreta Paraguayan directors in the neighborhood of the project site have "silverware and servants in livery," Acevedo replies that "I have read and heard such reports," but he added, "If we pay attention to them, we will not be able to work." He made it clear that "only what is strictly essential for the infrastructure was built on both banks of the river." He noted that "the implementation of any great project," like Yacyreta, "always draws criticism."

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON NEW WORLD INFORMATION ORDER

PY261735 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Argentine Public Information Secretary Emilio Gibaja has denounced in Jakarta the imbalance in the flow of information between the developed and the underdeveloped countries. He added that efforts will be made to correct this situation.

Gibaja held a press conference in Jakarta, where the information ministers are meeting. The ministers are discussing the implementation of strategies and practical ways and means of fostering the development of information and communications. Gibaja announced that Argentina will also participate developing close ties of cooperation with other nonaligned countries and in order to promoting the new government. Gibaja said that Argentina wishes to continue cooperating with other nonaligned countries and that it support all efforts to enhance information exchanges between them.

Gibaja expressed his hope that news agencies in nonaligned countries progress and become more efficient as time goes by, in keeping with the proposal made by these countries on the achievement of a new international information order.

Gibaja regretted the alleged U.S. intention to withdraw from UNESCO, adding that he hoped the United States will remain in UNESCO.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON STABILITY, MISSING DOCUMENTS

PY261110 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2109 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (EFE) -- The Argentine Government is "totally sure of its own stability," Argentine Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli today told EFE in an exclusive interview. The minister said the Radical government led by Raul Alfonsin has had "the situation under control" since 10 December. Troccoli also minimized the political significance of a recent meeting of Argentine officers allegedly held in Punta del Este (Uruguay).

Troccoli reported that "no single paper" which could put the actions of the past administration in a dangerous light was left in the files of the Interior Ministry. Troccoli termed this fact "extremely serious," adding said that the government is conducting an inquest with court participation to look into the whereabouts of missing official documents.

Commenting on Argentina's future, Troccoli expressed his confidence that in 1 or 2 years the country will be on the "takeoff platform" of its development. Troccoli said: "We will move ahead because we have large, unexploited resources. What we have to do is to develop a stable political system to put an end to our dramatic shifts in position throughout history."

Troccoli said that the government is maintaining "good overall" relations with the Peronist Party. He said that although "there are disagreements," efforts are being made to find "points of agreement."

GOVERNMENT, LABOR CLASH OVER WAGE SCALE

More Join Hunger Strike

PY261442 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Summary] "In compliance with the resolutions of the last national meeting held by the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB], the leaders of the Trade Union Federation of Bolivian Mineworkers [FSTMB] have joined the hunger strike which the top COB leaders began Monday." This was disclosed to Panamericana by Justo Perez, FSTMB secretary for conflicts, who pointed out that the mineworkers' leaders joined the voluntary fast at 0800 Wednesday. Justo Perez added that 10 representatives of each union of state as well as private enterprises will go to Government House today and will join the fast tomorrow.

"The Federation of La Paz Urban Teachers has also joined the hunger strike being carried out by the COB." This information was released by leader Mario Quintanilla, who stated that the teachers are honoring the decision made in the last national COB meeting.

"In view of the government's hesitation to fulfill the COB demands, the Greater University of the San Andres Workers Union has decided to start a hunger strike." They started the strike at 0900 yesterday on the 13th floor of the university building.

"The Trade Union Federation of Light, Power, and Telephone Workers of Bolivia has announced that, in keeping with its principles of unity and solidarity in the permanent struggle seeking the implementation of a fair salary, it has decided to observe the COB strike." It is disclosed that the strike is being held on the fourth floor of the Libertad building.

Through a communique, the State Telegraph and Radio Telegraph Operators Union "discloses that it has decided to start a hunger strike." This sector's strike started at 1700 yesterday.

'Agreement in Principle'

PY271205 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Yesterday the national cabinet proposed to the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB] an increase in the national minimum salary of 57 percent, retroactive to December, and also agreed to freeze for 4 months the price of rice, sugar, oil, and flour. These are some of the proposals that led to an agreement in principle to lift the hunger strike being carried out by the labor union leaders and that will be analyzed today by the COB, according to Juan Lechin Oquendo and other leaders. For the remaining salaries, the government has proposed a 17-percent increase over the current amount in addition to a fixed bonus equivalent to 40 percent of the current minimum salary, that is, 12,040 Bolivian pesos.

Regarding gold exploitation, the economic team has agreed to grant the monopoly of gold exploitation to the Mining Corporation of Bolivia. Negotiations will be held to discuss the preferential treatment that will be granted to the cooperatives currently involved in the exploitation of this mineral. This morning's sectorial labor union meeting will analyze the government's counterproposal in order to adopt decisions that will be discussed at the national COB meeting scheduled for 1400.

FREEZE ON U.S. NUCLEAR NEGOTIATIONS DENIED

PY261852 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas has termed as groundless a statement published by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce bulletin in Sao Paulo. The government spokesman said that U.S.-Brazilian negotiations on nuclear cooperation have not been frozen. Quite the contrary, there is a special commission analyzing this issue, and its final report will be studied next month when U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz visits our country.

SAO PAULO RALLY FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS PEACEFUL

PY261342 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Referring to yesterday's rally in favor of direct elections, Sao Paulo Governor Franco Montoro has said it was the largest political demonstration in the history of Sao Paulo. It has been reported that 450,000 passengers arrived yesterday at the Praca da Se subway station. According to the military and plainclothes police, persons were at the Praca da Se.

The demonstration was gigantic but developed in complete order, free of riots, conflicts, or agitation. The police squad of metropolitan area No 1 posted at the Praca da Se had a very calm day's work.

Representatives of all political groups spoke. Among them was a mayor of the Social Democratic Party [PDS]; and the governors of the States of Acre, Goias, Parana, Rio de Janeiro, and Sao Paulo.

Political circles in Brasilia closely followed the demonstration in Sao Paulo for the reinstatement of direct elections for president of the Republic. President Figueiredo, who is in Minas Gerais, was kept informed of developments by Planalto Palace and the Justice Ministry.

PDS leader Nelson Marchezan, president of the Chamber of Deputies, did not sound impressed by the fact that more than 200,000 people gathered at the Praca da Se.

Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola said that the Praca da Se rally was the largest that he had ever witnessed and promised to hold an even larger rally and demonstration in Rio de Janeiro in the near future.

POLL SHOWS 81 PERCENT FAVOR DIRECT ELECTIONS

PY261444 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] According to a poll by the Gallup Institute, 81 percent of Brazilian citizens are in favor of direct elections. The first poll was carried out in February 1980 and the second in December 1983. In 1980, 63 percent of Brazilians wanted direct elections. The Gallup Institute questioned 2,980 people in 185 cities in 21 states.

ARMY RESCUES KIDNAPPED RANCHER, KILLS REBELS

PA261958 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Manizalez -- Five members of a subversive column of the 9th front of the pro-Castro Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, were killed by the Army during the rescue of rancher Fiderico Corrado, who was kidnapped last year.

An Army patrol from the 8th Brigade operating in the vicinity of (Tarmana) clashed with the FARC group during which the wealthy rancher was rescued. The farmer was kidnapped on 30 December in La Victoria, Caldas Department.

According to the report of the 8th Brigade, headquartered in Armenia, five rebels were killed and two others were captured. The identity of the rebels is not yet known.

The rescued rancher returned to his home after being examined at a hospital because he appeared ill.

POLICE UNIT ACCUSED OF MURDERS, KIDNAPPINGS

PA261858 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota -- The F-2 [police intelligence section] will be held responsible for most of the 280 missing and or dead persons in Colombia in recent years, according to conclusions reached by the Attorney General's Office, whose agents in charge of the investigations are expected to turn in their final report next week.

It was also learned that many of the disappearances resulted from the work of F-2 agents, such as the killing of the kidnappers of the young Alvarez brothers, whose father, Jose Alvarez, had been charged with drug trafficking on several occasions. Other relatives and friends of the kidnappers also disappeared, and the bodies of some of them were later found by the authorities.

According to the information, the attorney general's agents confirmed that the license plates of some of the vehicles involved in the disappearances belonged to the F-2. The Attorney General's Office has also reported progress in clarifying the fate of other missing persons, most of them university students.

PEASANTS OCCUPY BUCARAMANGA GOVERNMENT BUILDING

PA242144 Bogota Cadena Radical Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] We now go to Jose Maria Veiga, "Supernews" correspondent in Bucaramanga, to get his report on the current situation in the Yellow Palace, the government building which was occupied by chicle and tobacco farmers from Santander Department. Jose Maria, what is going on?

[Veiga] Three hundred peasants have indeed occupied the departmental government building because they see this as the only way to get the government to solve their problems.

The peasants, led by (Ricaurte Becerra), today for the first time held a (?meeting) of individuals including Luis Pareja, the national chief of the peasant organization office, Luis Zambrano, the director of rural development of the [Agriculture] Ministry, and (Solidario Cardenas Lloron), who is the current government secretary and attended the meeting representing the governor.

The peasants, upon noticing that the governor himself was not present, demanded a meeting with him at 1700, which was granted. The peasants have just told Governor Jorge Sedano Gonzalez that they will not leave the Yellow Palace under any circumstances, demanding the presence of President Belisario Betancur.

[Announcer] Is it true that the peasants have said they will leave the Yellow Palace only if President Belisario Betancur meets with them?

[Veiga] Yes, (Ricaurte Becerra) has confirmed that they will leave the Yellow Palace only if President Belisario Betancur arrives. The governor has reiterated that he will mediate, but the peasants told him they will not leave. Their main demand is that several of their problems be solved. The chicle farmers are the ones who are the most insistent on the presence of President Belisario Betancur in Bucaramanga.

[Announcer] Well, thank you very much, Jose Maria Veiga, our correspondent in Bucaramanga. This is a very serious situation. We hope that Governor Jorge Agustin Sedano Gonzalez can resolve it.

BRIEFS

OIL PRODUCTION -- During 1983 the country's oil production increased to 165,011 barrels daily, an increase of 7.3 percent compared to the same period of the previous year. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 12 Jan 84 p 10 PA]

POLICE, STUDENTS CLASH OVER FARE HIKE, LAW

Senator Accuses Left

PY261829 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Ricardo Montegudo, president of the Peruvian Senate, has stated that behind the university student protests are political motivations instilled by left-wing groups seeking to destabilize democracy.

Two Students Die

PY261748 Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 1245 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Two students from the National Central University of Huancayo were shot to death during violent clashes with the police. These students are: (Marlon Issais Bravo Flores), 20, from the Agronomy School, and (Edgar Ramos Cauana), 22, from the Economy School. As a result of these clashes, 30 persons were injured and more than 50 detained. The students had previously blocked a 1-km stretch of a road located near the university campus. Our correspondent, (Adelmo Huamani), reports that the students were getting ready to stage a protest march against the bus fare hike and the new university law.

President Threatens Guarantees Suspension

PY270106 Paris AFP in Spanish 2020 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 26 Jan (AFP) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde today warned that if student riots continue, he will suspend individual guarantees throughout the country. The students have been protesting against a new university law, which they view as detrimental to their interests, and an increase in bus fares. Students pay preferential fares on public buses. These protests sparked violent clashes last week between students and security forces in major Peruvian cities. Two students were killed yesterday, Wednesday, during one of these clashes in Huancayo, in the center of the Andean region. Since students have seized public transportation vehicles, the Federation of Drivers has said that if this situation is not promptly solved, it will call a national strike.

Belaunde said at noon today that yesterday he was under heavy pressure to decree the suspension of guarantees, but that he did not do so because of the public rallies stated for today to pay tribute to eight journalist murdered in Ucharaccai, Ayacucho, a year ago. The suspension of guarantees also affects the right of assembly. Belaunde said the government supports the tribute to the slain journalists and noted that he is not unaware that those who are organizing these rallies are seeking political gains. Both congressmen and ministers have accused the opposition of organizing the rallies to discredit the government. For their part, the organizers contend that they do not seek political purposes but that they only demand that justice be done by having those responsible for this crime punished. They charge that the Ayacucho military officials have obstructed the case, with the government's concurrence, since virtually no progress has been made in the investigations in 12 months.

VENEZUELAN ENERGY MINISTER-DESIGNATE HOLDS TALKS

Venezuela to Obey San Jose Pact

PA270326 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 25 Jan 84 pp 1, 9

[By Jose Antonio Franco Chavero]

[Excerpt] Francisco Labastida Ochoa, secretary of energy, mines, and parastatal industry, yesterday said that Mexico's importance as an oil-producing and oil-exporting country and its liberal actions in that field put it in a position to defend the interests of our country, our people, and all raw material producing countries. Therefore, he added, Mexico will continue to defend the raw material producing countries, "particularly the oil-producing countries. In our climate of freedom, we are acting in a responsible manner."

He said this at a Pemex hangar during a welcoming ceremony for Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, the designated Venezuelan energy and mines minister, who said in an interview that the official position of the new Venezuelan Government is to comply with the San Jose Pact without making any alterations and to expand its relations with Mexico to reach "joint policies" in matters related to oil.

The future energy and mines minister of Venezuela reaffirmed his recognition of Mexico's oil policy, which consists of "plain, total, and firm respect" for OPEC; therefore, he asked OPEC "not to exert any pressure" on Mexico to join the organization.

Cooperation 'Should Be Extended'

FL270025 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1715 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex Director Mario Ramon Beteta and Venezuelan Minister-designate of Energy Arturo Hernandez Grisanti have stated that cooperation between Mexico and Venezuela should be extended to the fields of capital goods and services as well as engineering and technology. They confirmed the desire of both countries to improve and strengthen the mechanisms of assistance in petroleum-related matters, because cooperation, which leads to harmony in the international oil policies of both countries, has been mutually beneficial.

When Pemex Director Beteta received Hernandez Grisanti yesterday, he said Mexico's conduct in the international market will continue to be responsible. He also stated that there will be no change in Mexico's determination to further information exchange and permanent contacts with Venezuela and all other oil-producing countries, whether or not they are OPEC members.

Hernandez Grisanti, who will return to Venezuela tomorrow, reiterated his gratitude for Mexico's attitude toward OPEC since 1982, stating that although OPEC regulations do not provide for participation by observer nations, Mexico's consultative policy has contributed positively to the efforts to enhance the stability in the international oil market.

BRIEFS

INFLATIONARY SPIRAL DECREASES -- The Bank of Mexico has stated in its consumer price index report that the country's inflation rate was 80.8 percent in 1983, down 18.1 percent from 1982. The bank attributed the decrease in the inflation rate to the effects of the government's economic reorganization plan. [Excerpts] [Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 7 Jan 84 pp 1, 7 PA]

COMMENTATOR EXPLAINS NEW TORRIJIST MOVEMENT

PA260637 Panama City Radio Tic Tac in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Jan 84

[From the "Comments and Rebuttals" program]

[Excerpts] The Torrijist Vanguard 2000 is a new movement within the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PED], and it is not against the party. The PRD is a large party, with a registered membership of 210,000 Panamanians of both sexes throughout the nation, and it is only natural that various factions or internal movements arise among its members. This was true of the Social Democratic Party and the Republican Party in Europe, and of the Labor Party in England, all of which have left-wing, center, and right-wing groups. This is now the case with the PRD as well.

This new group does not seek to strike at or slander anyone. It does not seek to monopolize anything, because Omar Torrijos is greater than all parties, and he is far above any faction. Therefore, it is not contradictory for the Torrijist Vanguard 2000 to use the term Torrijist, because it adheres to the concept of the Panamanian revolution. This internal movement, current, or faction will not slander or attack any other group that wishes to adopt the term Torrijist. We even saw a television interview yesterday, in which Communist Party leader Ruben Dario Souza pointed out that there are Torrijist communists at the international level.

This means that Torrijism is not our monopoly; it is not a monopoly of the party, or the process, or of any group. Torrijism includes many organizations, parties, and factions. Therefore, the Torrijist Vanguard 2000 is not weakening the party; it is seeking unity, and wishes only to carry Torrijos' flag. Any other interpretation is subjective and based on old sectarian criteria.

The Torrijist Vanguard 2000 has issued its working program, which includes: social actions, free legal advice, low-cost medical service, clean-up campaigns for Panama City, the maintenance of public service installations, and traffic safety campaigns.

ORIT OFFICIAL DISCUSSES GRENADA ISSUE

PA261943 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Luis Anderson, former deputy labor minister and now secretary general of the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers [ORIT], has given this station a review of his initial experiences in his new post -- especially the administrative side -- and of his recent visit to Barbados and Grenada.

[Begin recording] [Anderson] Last week I was in Grenada and Barbados. I talked with labor leaders and workers of Grenada, which was the object of an armed action by the United States and other countries of the Eastern Caribbean. I became aware of the feelings and reactions of the people and workers of Grenada to that action.

I believe this has helped the organization, through our report to all the other democratic labor organizations of the continent, to understand the events that occurred.

[Unidentified reporter] Before going further, Mr Anderson, what are those feelings?

[Anderson] I would say that the majority, almost 90 percent of the population of Grenada, believes that, rather than intervention, the armed forces performed a rescue mission. We understood this after talking with them and gaining a first-hand account of the events that took place.

I believe these events could be described as events that terrorized the people of that island. In addition to Prime Minister Bishop and several members of his cabinet, many people were killed. Many civilians were murdered by the country's Armed Forces. In addition, conditions were imposed on the civilian population, such as a 24-hour curfew for 4 days, that did not permit the people to satisfy their vital needs. They were locked up in their houses listening to the shooting, which prompted the feeling that the forces that came in were actually there to rescue them and that they saved their lives.

As an organization, the ORIT maintains the principle that military interventions are not the best solutions, that perhaps other possibilities should have been tried. Nevertheless, we cannot deny the fact that very special conditions existed there, and that in the minds of the people of the Grenada the action was justified.

COSTA RICAMONGE SAYS U.S. INTERVENTION FAVORABLE TO AREA

PA262203 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 17 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] President Monge yesterday said that the Kissinger report constitutes an act of intervention in Central America, but one which favors the area's peoples. Monge added that "the report is an act of intervention against poverty and ignorance."

The president said that "in the past there were other kinds of U.S. intervention in Latin America." On the agreements reached at the Latin American Economic Conference in Quito that he attended, he said that "we Latin Americans have faced only frustration in the past, but now a serious and objective plan is being prepared."

He said that "perhaps the 'jolt' of the dangers that threaten us has caused many to react."

The president did not dwell at length on statements made by former Foreign Minister Fernando Volio on the national neutrality decree, but he did say: "I do not share former Foreign Minister Volio's point of view." He also commented on the arrival of U.S. engineers, noting that they were coming to the San Isidro del General region only and not to the northern part of the country, "because otherwise the situation would have been open to criticism of the United States because of misinterpretation."

"The programs are continuing in the northern part of the country," Monge said.

Commenting on the 2,000 Cubans in transit who have been in the country for the past 6 months and have not been given visas to enter the United States, he said: "This depends upon the United States and not on Costa Rica."

U.S. DEVELOPMENT PLANS POSTPONED FOR 'SECURITY'

PA262005 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] The case of the U.S. engineers -- who will not be taken to the northern area of the country -- will be explained by Presidency Minister Fernando Berrocal Soto and Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez to the municipalites in the northern part of the country.

These municipalities have protested following the announcement by the government that the development programs for the northern area will not be implemented, because for security reasons the U.S. engineers will not be authorized to go into the Upala area.

It will be explained that the project has not been cancelled, but that it has been postponed for security reasons, and that when the conditions are right they will be authorized to go there.

Regarding the arrival of the U.S. engineers, who will be stationed in the region of San Isidro del General, the foreign minister said that no answer has been received yet. He said the United States will determine when they will arrive. It had been planned that the personnel and equipment to implement the projects in Upala would embark this week. However, with the government's decision not to allow them into the area, the plans were delayed and are being reprogrammed. Gutierrez said he has no information on what the U.S. Government will decide on the matter.

NEW ENVOY TO U.S., PLANNING MINISTER CONFIRMED

PA262027 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] The appointment of Claudio Antonio Volio as ambassador to Washington is official. The U.S. Government has approved the appointment of Claudio Antonio Volio Guardia as the Costa Rican ambassador in Washington. With this requirement fulfilled, the Government Council yesterday at noon made the appointment of Volio Guardia official.

The appointment of Juan Antonio Manuel Villasuso as the new planning and economic policy minister has also been confirmed. The new planning minister will take office on 1 February. Volio Guardia will go to Washington early next month.

EL SALVADORPRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES SPEAK AT ROUNDTABLE

PA260421 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2054 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] San Salvador, 25 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran presidential candidates Jose Napoleon Duarte, representing the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, and Roberto D'Aubuisson, representing the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, held opposing views at a recent pre-electoral debate here.

At a roundtable discussion in which other parties' candidates also participated, Duarte and D'Aubuisson particularly clashed on the causes of violence in the country and El Salvador's economic system. Other candidates participating in the debate were Rene Fortin Magana of the Democratic Action Party, AD; Francisco Quinonez Avila, of the Salvadoran Popular Party, PPS; Francisco Guerero of the National Conciliation Party, PCN; and Roberto Escobar Garcia of the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party, PAISA.

During the more than 5-hour-long debate, D'Aubuisson said that the past 50 years provided the basis for El Salvador's current economic development. In contrast, Duarte stated that those same 50 years had provided the basis for the current social and economic problems.

However, it was agreed that the nation's economic reactivation depends on the eradication of violence, so that new investment and greater wealth may be secured for the "benefit of all social sectors." The elections will begin "better days," even if they do not solve the problem of administrative irregularities or the poor administration of law in the country.

Duarte suggested that "a society divided among those who have everything and those who have nothing" is the main cause of the country's economic and social problems. He added that the policy of "institutionalized violence" that has prevailed in the country has been the cause of the unemployment that affects thousands of Salvadorans.

Duarte suggested the establishment of a "social pact," which would consist of tolerance of ideas and a "great national dialogue," in order to eradicate the long history of fraud by official parties and regimes of terror." [quotation marks as received]

On the other hand, D'Aubuisson refuted Duarte's view, insisting that the country has developed in recent years, and he justified the attitude of governments prior to the junta presided over by Duarte in 1979 by stating that El Salvador was the "guinea pig" of the two world powers. "The United States provides El Salvador with both arms and money, but the Salvadorans give their blood and their lives," D'Aubuisson said. He criticized the junta presided over by Duarte, who claimed that the growth experienced during his regime was mainly due to the agrarian reform and to the nationalization of the bank and foreign commerce in 1980.

The candidates who participated in the roundtable, which was organized by the Center for Legal Studies From El Salvador, will run for the Presidency in the 25 March elections.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY APPROVES CONSTITUTION

PA241507 San Jose LA NACION INTERNACIONAL in Spanish 19-25 Jan 84 pp 19, 20

["Summary of the Principal Articles" containing selected portions of the Political Constitution approved by the Salvadoran Constituent Assembly in December 1983 -- uppercase as published]

[Text] Decree No 38

WE, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE, GATHERED IN A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, WITH OUR TRUST PLACED IN GOD AND OUR WILL IN THE LOFTY DESTINIES OF THE HOMELAND, EXERCISING THE SOVEREIGN POWER VESTED IN US BY THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE AND MOVED BY THE FERVENT DESIRE TO ESTABLISH THE GROUNDWORK FOR NATIONAL COEXISTENCE BASED ON RESPECT FOR HUMAN DIGNITY AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MORE JUST SOCIETY, THE ESSENCE OF DEMOCRACY AND THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE, WHICH ARE THE VALUES OF OUR HUMANISTIC HERITAGE,

DECREE, APPROVE, AND PROCLAIM the following:

CONSTITUTION

TITLE I

SOLE CHAPTER

THE INDIVIDUAL

THE ENDS OF THE STATE

Article 1. El Salvador recognizes the individual as the origin and purpose of the activity of the state, which is organized for the attainment of justice, legal security and the common good. It is, therefore, the obligation of the state to ensure that the inhabitants of the Republic may enjoy freedom, health, culture, economic welfare, and social justice.

TITLE II

THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND GUARANTEES OF THE INDIVIDUAL

CHAPTER I

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND SPECIAL CASES

SECTION I

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

Article 2. Every person is entitled to life, physical and moral integrity, freedom, security, work, property and possessions, as well as protection for the preservation and defense of the above.

Article 3. Every person is equal before the law. Restrictions based on differences of nationality, race, sex, or religion cannot be established for the enjoyment of civil rights.

Neither hereditary employment nor privileges are acknowledged.

Article 4. Every person in the Republic is free.

Whoever enters its territory shall not be a slave, nor can any trafficker in slavery be a citizen. No one can be subject to bondage or to any other condition that may undermine his dignity.

Article 5. Every person is free to enter and remain in the territory of the Republic and to leave it, except under the limitations established by law.

No one can be forced to change his place of domicile or residence except by mandate of a judicial authority, in special cases and in accordance with the requirements established by law.

No Salvadoran can be expatriated; neither can he be prohibited from entering the nation's territory, nor denied a passport for his return, or other identification documents. Neither can he be forbidden to leave the territory, except under a resolution or sentence handed down by the appropriate authority, in accordance with the law.

Article 6. Every person can express and freely disseminate his opinions, as long as they do not subvert the public order or damage the morals, honor, or private lives of others. The exercise of this right is not subject to prior examination, censorship, or caution, but those who, in the exercise of this right, violate the law, will answer for the crime committed.

In no case can a printing press, its accessories, or any other means used to disseminate opinions be seized as instruments of crime.

Enterprises dedicated to communication, whether by publication, radio or television, and other public communication companies can neither be seized by the state nor nationalized either through expropriation or any other procedure. This ban is applicable to their owners' shares as well.

The above-mentioned enterprises cannot establish different rates or undertake any other kind of discrimination on the basis of the political or religious nature of what is to be communicated.

The right to reply is recognized as a means of protecting the individual's fundamental rights and guarantees.

Public shows can be censored in accordance with the law.

Article 7. The inhabitants of El Salvador have the right to associate freely and to gather peacefully and unarmed for any legal purpose. No one can be forced to belong to an association.

No one can be limited in or prevented from exercising any legal activity because he does not belong to an association.

The existence of armed political or religious groups or unions prohibited.

Article 8. No one is obliged to do what is not ordered by law or to abstain from what it does not forbid.

Article 9. No one can be obliged to carry out work or render personal services without receiving just payment and without his full consent, except in cases of public disaster and in other cases indicated by law.

Article 10. The law cannot authorize any action or contract that implies the loss or irreparable sacrifice of the freedom or dignity of an individual. Neither can it authorize agreements that establish pacts on banishment or exile.

Article 11. No person can be deprived of the right to life, freedom, property and possession, or of any of his other rights, without previously being heard and found guilty in a trial in accordance with the law; neither can he be tried twice for the same cause.

Every person is entitled to a writ of habeas corpus whenever any authority or individual illegally restricts his freedom.

Article 20. The dwelling place is inviolable and may be entered only with the consent of the person who inhabits it, or by judicial mandate, because a flagrant crime has been committed, because of the imminent danger that such a crime might be perpetrated, or in case of grave risk for the people therein.

Article 24. Correspondence of any kind is inviolable; if intercepted it can not be used in or to certify any action, except in cases of insolvency proceedings [concurso] and bankruptcy. The interference with and tapping of telephone conversations is forbidden.

Article 25. The free exercise of all faiths is guaranteed, without any limitations other than those outlined by morality and public order. No religious act will serve to establish the civil status of the individuals.

Article 26. The legal status of the Catholic Church is acknowledged. Other churches may obtain recognition for their status in accordance with the law.

Article 27. The death penalty can be imposed only in cases established by military law during states of international war.

Imprisonment for reason of debt, perpetual and dishonorable sentences, banishment, and all kinds of torment are prohibited.

Article 28. El Salvador grants asylum to any foreigner who may wish to reside in its territory, except in those cases established by domestic and international law. The special cases cannot include those who are persecuted for exclusively political reasons.

SECTION II: SPECIAL CASES

Article 29. The guarantees established in Articles 5; 6, section 1; 7; and 24 of this Constitution can be suspended in the event of war, invasion of the nation's territory, rebellion, sedition, catastrophe, an epidemic, or some other general calamity or instance of grave disturbance of the public order, except in the case of religious, cultural, economic or sports meetings or associations. Such a suspension could affect the entirety or only a part of the nation's territory and, depending on the case, it will be decreed by either the legislative branch or the executive branch. Constitutional guarantees cannot be suspended for periods exceeding 30 days. Once this period expires, the suspension can be extended for a similar period of time by means of a new decree if the circumstances that motivated it continue. Unless such a decree is issued, suspended guarantees will be fully restored.

Article 30. Once the suspension of constitutional guarantees has been declared, it will be the province of the special military courts to obtain information about the crimes committed against the existence and organization of the state, against its international or internal status [personalidad], and against public peace. They must also learn about any perpetrated crimes of international significance. The decree that suspends constitutional guarantees may exclude from the special military tribunals' knowledge one or several of the above-mentioned crimes, depending upon the circumstances that led to the suspension of these guarantees.

CHAPTER II: SOCIAL RIGHTS

FIRST SECTION: FAMILY

Article 32. The family is the fundamental basis of society, and it will receive the protection of the state, which will pass the necessary laws and create the appropriate bodies and services for its creation, welfare, and social, cultural, and economic development.

Marriage is the legal basis of the family; it is based on the legal equality of the spouses. The state will encourage marriage; but its absence will not affect the enjoyment of the rights established in favor of the family.

SECOND SECTION: WORK AND SOCIAL SECURITY

Article 37. Work is a social function that enjoys the protection of the state and is not regarded as something to be bought and sold. The state will employ every available means to provide occupation for both the manual and intellectual worker, and to ensure him and his family the economic conditions needed to live a decent life. It will also promote the work and employment of those individuals who have physical, mental, or social limitations or handicaps.

Article 38. Work will be regulated by a code, the main purpose of which will be to harmonize the relations between management and labor by establishing their rights and obligations. It will be based on general principles intended to improve the standard of living of the workers, and will especially include the following rights:

1. In the same company or establishment, and under identical circumstances, equal work must result in equal wages for the workers, regardless of their sex, race, creed, or nationality.

2. Every worker is entitled to receive a minimum wage, which will be established periodically. In order to set this wage, special attention will be given to the cost of living, the kind of work, the various wage systems, the various production areas, and other such aspects. This wage must be sufficient to satisfy the normal material, moral, and cultural needs of the workers' home. In the case of piecework, or that which is done for a fixed rate or lump sum, it is obligatory to ensure the minimum wage per working period [jornada];

3. Neither wages nor social benefits in the amounts determined by the law can be garnished, compensated, or retained, except in the case of child support. They can also be retained to pay social security obligations, union dues, or taxes. The workers' tools cannot be garnished;

4. Wages must be paid in legal tender. Both the wage and the social benefits are privileged credits in relation to other credits that might be pending against the employer;

5. The employers will give their workers a bonus for each year of work. The law will establish the way in which its amount will be determined with relation to the wages;

6. During the day, the regular effective working period will not exceed 8 hours, nor will the labor week exceed 44 hours. Maximum overtime for each kind of work will be determined by the law. Night shifts and working periods for dangerous or unhealthy tasks will be shorter than day shifts and will be regulated by the law. Working period limitations will not be applicable under special circumstances. If required by the pace of the activity, the law will determine how long the working period can be interrupted for biological reasons. The law will also determine the length of period that must exist between two workshifts. Payment of overtime and night work will entail a surcharge [recargo];

7. Every worker is entitled to a day off with pay for each workweek, which will be established by the law. Those workers who do not rest on the days indicated above will be entitled to compensatory rest and special payment for the services rendered during those days;

8. The workers will be entitled to rest with pay on the holidays indicated by the law; the law will determine what activities are not regulated by this provision, but in those cases the workers will be entitled to receive special payments;

9. Every worker who renders a minimum of services for a given period of time will be entitled to paid annual vacation in a manner to be determined by the law. Vacations cannot be compensated with money, and the employer's obligation to give them is matched by that of the worker to take them;

10. Minors under 14 years of age, and those having fulfilled essential for their sustenance or that of their families, so long as this does not keep them from completing the minimum compulsory instruction program [sentence as published] Minors under 16 years of age cannot work more than 6 hours a day and 34 hours per week, regardless of the type of work performed. Neither minors under 18 years of age nor women are allowed to engage in unhealthy or dangerous work. Neither are minors under 18 allowed to work at night. The law will determine what dangerous or unhealthy tasks are;

11. The employer who dismisses a worker without justification must pay him an indemnity in accordance with the law;

12. The law will determine the conditions under which employers will be obliged to pay to permanent workers who resign a sum which is to be established in relation to the wages and the time of service.

The resignation may produce effects which the employer does not necessarily have to accept, but his refusal to pay the corresponding benefits would constitute a legal presumption [presuncion legal] of unjust dismissal. In the event of a worker's total and permanent incapacity or of his demise, he or his beneficiaries would be entitled to the benefits they would have received in the event of a voluntary resignation.

Article 39. The law will regulate the conditions under which collective labor contracts and agreements will be signed. The provisions contained in them will be applicable to all workers in the companies that sign them, even if they do not belong to the contracting union, as well as to other workers who may join those companies during the time in which those contracts or agreements are in effect. The law will establish the procedure for making uniform the working conditions in various economic fields of activity on the basis of the provisions included in a majority of the collective labor contracts and agreements that are in effect for each type of activity.

Article 41. Those who work at home are entitled to an officially stipulated minimal wage and to be indemnified for time lost due to an employer's delay in ordering or receiving the work, or as a result of an arbitrary or unjustified suspension of the work. The legal situation of those who work at home will be recognized as similar to that of other workers, taking into consideration the peculiarities of his task.

Article 42. Female workers will be entitled to paid rest before and after childbirth and to retain their jobs. The laws will regulate the employers' obligation to install and maintain nurseries and areas for the care of the workers' children.

Article 43. The employers are obliged to pay indemnity and give medical, pharmaceutical, and other services established by law to the worker who suffers an on-the-job accident or any kind of illness related to his profession.

Article 44. The law will regulate the conditions that must exist in workshops, factories, and other work places. The state will maintain a technical inspection service charged with ensuring the due fulfillment of the legal rules on labor, assistance, and social security in order to check on their results and suggest pertinent reforms.

Article 45. Agricultural workers and servants are entitled to protection in matters of wages, work shifts, rests, vacations, social security, indemnity for dismissal, and, in general, social benefits. The scope and nature of the above mentioned decrees will be determined by the law, in accordance with the conditions and peculiarities of the job. Those rendering domestic services in industrial and commercial enterprises, social organizations, or their equivalent, will be regarded as manual workers entitled to the acknowledged rights in this sector.

Article 46. The state will promote the creation of a bank owned by the workers.

Article 47. Private employers and workers, without distinction of nationality, sex, race, creed, political ideas or the nature of their activities or the work they perform, have the right to associate freely to defend their respective interests by forming professional associations or unions. The workers of autonomous official institutions will have the same right. These organizations are entitled to legal status and to being duly protected while exercising their functions. Their dissolution or suspension can be decreed only in those cases, and following the formalities, established by the law. The special rules for the Constitution and functioning of the professional organizations and unions in both rural areas and cities must not limit the freedom to associate. No exclusionary clause is permitted.

The members of union boards of directors must be Salvadorans by birth, and during the period of their election, term of office, and for a year after their tenure they cannot be dismissed, disciplinarily suspended, transferred, or have their work conditions deteriorate except for a just cause previously established by the competent authority.

Article 48. Workers have the right to strike and employers the right to a lockout. For the exercise of these rights, prior judgment will not be necessary after solution of the conflict that leads to these has been sought through the phases of peaceful solution established by law. The effects of the strike or lockout begin the moment they start.

Article 50. Social security is an obligatory public service. The law will regulate its scope, extension, and form. This service will be provided by one or several institutions which must maintain adequate coordination so as to guarantee a good policy of social protection in a specialized form and with the utmost use of resources. Employers, workers, and the state will contribute to the payment of social security in the form and amount established by law. The state and the employers will be exempt from their legally established obligations in favor of the workers insofar as these are covered by social security.

Article 51. The law will determine the enterprises and establishments that, due to their special conditions, are obliged to provide to the worker and his family adequate housing, schools, medical assistance, and other services necessary for their well-being.

Article 52. The rights established in favor of workers cannot be renounced.

THIRD SECTION: EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE

Article 53. The right to education and culture is inherent in human beings; therefore, their preservation, development, and diffusion are an essential objective and obligation of the state.

Article 54. The state will organize the educational system, for which it will create the necessary institutions and services. Individuals and corporations are guaranteed freedom to establish private education centers.

Article 55. Education has the following objectives: to achieve the integral development of the personality in its spiritual, moral, and social dimension; to contribute to the construction of a more prosperous, just, and humane democratic society; to instill respect for human rights and the observance of the corresponding duties; to combat all intolerance and hatred; to teach the national reality and identify with the values of the Salvadoran nationality; and to promote the unity of the Central American people. Parents will have the right to choose the education of their children.

Article 57. The education taught in the official centers will be essentially democratic. Private educational centers will be subject to state inspection and regulation and can be subsidized when nonprofit. The state may take exclusive charge of the training of teachers.

Article 58. No educational center can deny admission to students due to the nature of the union of their parents or guardians or for social, religious, racial, or political differences.

Article 59. Literacy is of social interest. All the country's inhabitants will contribute to it in the form established by law.

Article 61. Higher education will be regulated by a special law.

The University of El Salvador and the other state universities will have autonomy in teaching, administrative, and economic aspects. They must provide a social service, respecting freedom of education [catedra]. They will be governed by statutes that fall within the framework of that law which will establish the general principles for their organization and operation.

The state budget will include annual allocations to support the state universities and to guarantee and increase their patrimony. In accordance with the law, these institutions will be subject to the supervision of the appropriate state agency.

The special law will also regulate the creation and operation of private universities, respecting freedom of education. The same law will regulate the creation and operation of official and private technological institutes.

Article 62. Spanish is the official language of El Salvador. The government is obliged to ensure its preservation and instruction. The indigenous languages spoken within the Salvadoran territory are part of the country's cultural patrimony and will be preserved, made known, and respected.

FOURTH SECTION: PUBLIC HEALTH AND RURAL ASSISTANCE

Article 65. The health of the inhabitants of this country is a public asset. The state and people must care for its preservation and restoration.

Article 66. The state will give free assistance to whomever needs medical help and has no means to pay for it, and to the inhabitants in general when the medical treatment is an efficient way to prevent the spread of a contagious disease. In this case, the treatment is compulsory.

Article 70. The state will take care of individuals who, because of their age or because of a physical or mental handicap, are unable to work.

CHAPTER III

FIRST SECTION: CITIZENS, THEIR POLITICAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES, AND THE ELECTORAL BODY

Article 71. All Salvadorans above 18 years of age are considered citizens.

Article 72. The following are a citizen's political rights:

1. To vote.
2. To associate with the intention of forming a party according to the law, or to join those already formed.
3. To occupy public positions, based on the requirements called for in this Constitution and secondary laws.

Article 73. The following are a citizen's political duties:

1. To vote.
2. To comply with the Constitution of the Republic, and to see that it is respected.

3. To be at the service of the state, as required by law. The voting privilege also entails the right to vote in direct popular elections, as stated in this Constitution.

Article 74. A citizen's rights will be suspended for any one of the following reasons:

1. Formal arrest.
2. Mental disorder.
3. Legal interdiction.
4. Refusal to occupy a post -- after being elected by popular vote -- without any valid reason. In this case, the suspension will last for the time during which the citizen was supposed to be in the position to which he was elected.

Article 75. A citizen's rights will be lost in the following cases:

1. Those with notorious bad behavior.
2. Those sentenced for a crime.
3. Those who buy or sell votes during elections.
4. Those who sign documents, statements, or supporting papers promoting or supporting the reelection or continuation in his post of the president of the Republic, or those who use direct means for this purpose.
5. Government officials, authorities, or agents of these authorities who limit the freedom to vote.

In these cases, the citizen's rights will be recovered with his rehabilitation, as certified by a competent authority.

Article 76. The electoral body is formed by all citizens capable of voting.

Article 77. An indispensable condition for voting is to be included in the electoral list autonomously prepared by the Central Electoral Council, independently of any other public registry.

Article 78. The vote will be free, direct, on an equal basis, and secret.

Article 79. The territory of the Republic will be divided into electoral districts, to be determined by law. Population will be the basis for the electoral system.

The system of proportional representation will be used in the election of deputies.

The law will determine the manner, time, and other conditions for voting.

The election date for president and vice president of the Republic will be at least 2 months before, and not more than 4 months before, the beginning of the presidential term.

Article 80. The president and vice president of the Republic, the legislative assembly deputies, and the members of the municipal councils are popularly elected officials.

When in the election of president and vice president of the Republic, no political party or coalition of participating political parties obtain an absolute majority of the votes, in accordance with the count, a second election will be carried out between the two political parties or coalitions of political parties that won the largest number of valid votes; this second election must be held within 30 days after the results of the first election have been firmly declared. When due to force majeure or unforeseen circumstances, duly established by the Legislative Assembly, the second election cannot be held within the indicated period, the election will be held within a second period of no more than 30 days.

Article 81. Electoral propaganda will only be permitted, even without previous notice [as published] 4 months before the date established by law for the election of president and vice president of the Republic, 2 months before in the case of deputies, and a month before in the case of municipal councils.

Article 82. Clergymen of any religion and members of the Armed Forces on active service cannot belong to political parties or hold popularly elected posts.

Neither can they carry out political propaganda in any form.

Citizens will cast their votes in the locations determined by law. They cannot be cast in military installations.

TITLE III: THE STATE, ITS FORM OF GOVERNMENT POLICAL SYSTEM

Article 83. El Salvador is a sovereign state. The sovereignty lies in the people, who exercise it in the prescribed way and within the limits of this Constitution.

The borders of the national territory are the following: TO THE WEST, with the Republic of Guatemala, in accordance with what is established in the Treaty of Territorial Borders signed in Guatemala on 9 April 1938.

TO THE NORTH AND TO THE EAST, in part, with the Republic of Honduras in the sections delimited by the General Peace Treaty signed in Lima, Peru, on 30 October 1980. As for the sections yet to be delimited, the borders will be those that are established in accordance with that treaty or in accordance with any means of peaceful solution of international controversies.

TO THE EAST, in part, with the Republics of Honduras and Nicaragua in the waters of the Gulf of Fonseca.

AND TO THE SOUTH with the Pacific Ocean.

Article 85. The government is republican, democratic, and representative.

The political system is pluralistic and it is expressed through the political parties which are the sole instrument for the exercise of the people's representation in the government. The regulations, organization, and operation will be in accordance with the principles of representative democracy.

The existence of a single official party is incompatible with the democratic system and with the form of government established in this Constitution.

Article 86. Public power emanates from the people. The branches of government will exercise it independently within the responsibilities and jurisdictions that this Constitution and the laws establish. The functions of the branches of government cannot be delegated, but they will cooperate among themselves in the exercise of the public functions.

The fundamental branches of government are the legislative, executive, and judicial.

Article 87. The people's right to engage in insurrection is acknowledged, but only for the purpose of restoring constitutional order disrupted by the violation of norms related either to the established form of government or political system, or by a grave violation of the rights set forth in this Constitution.

The exercise of this right will not result in either the annulment or the amendment of this Constitution, and whenever necessary will merely result in the removal of the violating officials, replacing them temporarily until they can be replaced in the manner established in this Constitution.

The functions and responsibilities that fall to the main branches established by this Constitution can in no case be exercised by either a single person or institution.

Article 88. Alternation in the office of the presidency of the Republic is essential to the maintenance of the established form of government and political system. The violation of this norm makes insurrection obligatory.

Article 89. El Salvador will encourage and promote the human, economic, social, and cultural integration of the American republics, especially those of the Central American isthmus. Integration may be achieved by signing treaties or agreements with the interested republics. These treaties or agreements may consider the possibility of creating organizations with supranational functions.

El Salvador will also encourage either the total or partial reconstruction of the Republic of Central America, in the form of a union, federation, or confederation, fully guaranteeing respect for the democratic and republican principles and for the individual and social rights of its inhabitants.

The draft and bases for such a union will be subject to popular consultation.

TITLE IV: NATIONALITY

Article 90. The following are Salvadorans by nationality.

1. Those born in the territory of El Salvador.
2. The children of Salvadoran fathers or mothers, born abroad.
3. Those born in the other states that formerly comprised the Federal Republic of Central America who, having their domicile in El Salvador, express to the appropriate authorities their desire to become Salvadorans; this does necessitate their giving up their original nationality.

Article 91. Salvadorans by birth are entitled to double or multiple nationality.

The status of Salvadoran by birth is lost only by specific renunciation before an appropriate authority and is recovered by requesting it to the said authority.

TITLE V: ECONOMIC ORDER

Article 101. The economic order must essentially respond to principles of social justice, which would tend to guarantee an existence worthy of human beings to all of the country's inhabitants.

Article 102. Economic freedom is guaranteed, in those aspects that oppose the social interest. [sentence as published] The state will encourage and protect private initiative in accordance with the conditions required to increase the national wealth and guarantee the benefits derived from this wealth for the largest number of the country's inhabitants.

Article 103. The right to private property as a social function is both recognized and guaranteed.

Article 105. The state acknowledges, encourages, and guarantees the right to privately own rural [rustica] land, be it on an individual, cooperative, or communal basis, or through any other form of association. The state cannot, under any circumstances, reduce the maximum area of land established in this Constitution as legally owned property. The maximum area of rural land owned by a single individual or corporation cannot exceed 245 hectares. This limitation will not be applicable to the cooperatives or peasant communal associations.

TITLE VI: GOVERNMENT BODIES, FUNCTIONS AND PURVIEWS

CHAPTER I

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

FIRST SECTION

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Article 121. The Legislative Assembly is a body made up of deputies who are elected in the manner specified in this Constitution. Its fundamental function is to pass legislation.

Article 128. Deputies can be neither contractors nor guarantors of public works or enterprises financed with state or municipal funds; neither can they obtain state concessions for the exploitation of the nation's wealth or public services, nor agree to serve as representatives or administrative agents of either national or foreign individuals who hold those contracts or concessions.

Article 129. Deputies exercising their functions cannot hold paid public posts during the period for which they have been elected, except for educational or cultural posts and those related to professional social assistance services. However, they may hold the posts of ministers or deputy ministers of state, presidents of autonomous official institutions, heads of diplomatic or consular missions, or may carry out special diplomatic missions. In these cases, if the period for which they were elected has not yet expired, they will return to the assembly upon ceasing their functions. The alternates can hold public jobs or posts without the acceptance and exercise of those positions leading to the loss of their role as alternates.

CHAPTER II: EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Article 150. The president and vice president of the Republic, the ministers and deputy ministers of state, and their subordinate officials make up the executive branch.

Article 151. The requirements for election as president of the Republic include: being Salvadoran by birth, the son of a Salvadoran father or mother; being a layman over 35 years of age, of well-known morality and education; being in possession of all civic rights; and being affiliated at present, and for the 6 years prior to the election, with one of the legally recognized political parties.

Article 152. The following cannot be candidates for the Presidency of the Republic.

1. A person who had held the office of president of the Republic for more than 6 months, prior to the outset of a presidential term;
2. The spouse and other relatives, to the fourth degree of consanguinity and the second degree of affinity, of any person who may have exercised the Presidency in the cases of the previous paragraph;
3. A person who had held the office of president of the Legislative Assembly or president of the Supreme Court of Justice during the year prior to the day on which the presidential term begins;
4. A person who has held the office of minister, deputy minister, or president of an autonomous institution during the last year of the previous presidential term.
5. A professional military man enrolled in active duty or one who was enrolled within 3 years prior to the day on which the presidential term begins;
6. A vice president or presidential-designate legally called upon to exercise the post of president during the previous term, who refused to hold the office, without just cause, knowing that this cause exists when the vice president or presidential-designate announce their intention to be presidential candidate, within the 6 months prior to the beginning of the presidential term. [sentence as published]
7. The persons included in Paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of Article 127 of this Constitution.

Article 154. The presidential term will be of 5 years and will begin and end on the first day of June, and the person holding the office of president of the Republic may not continue in that office for another day.

Article 157. The president of the Republic is commander of the Armed Forces.

Article 158. The president is not allowed to leave the country without the approval of the Legislative Assembly.

GUATEMALA

ANDRADE CALLS KISSINGER REPORT IMPORTANT

PA261921 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 25 Jan 84 p 15

[Text] The Guatemalan Government considers that some of the recommendations made by the Kissinger commission in its report to President Reagan are very important, Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz Duran said here yesterday.

He said the document is important, considering that it was the result of arduous, intense work by the Bipartisan Commission, and that it envisages important economic changes for the Central American area.

We believe the report is positive, and that there is no ill intent contained in it. However, it is necessary to wait for President Reagan to issue his opinion on the matter, and for the U.S. Congress to react on the subject.

Foreign Minister Andrade also announced his departure on 1 February for Venezuela, where he will attend the inauguration of Venezuelan President-elect Jaime Lusinchi. He will be accompanied by the chief of the Foreign Ministry public relations office, Manuel Eduardo Rodriguez.

PRESIDENTIAL PALACE HIT BY GRENADES 26 JAN

PA261909 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1818 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Guatemala City, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Unidentified persons this morning threw several hand grenades at the Presidential Palace located in the downtown part of the Guatemalan capital, but there were no casualties or damage, according to local radio station reports.

Army public relations chief Colonel Edgar Djalma Dominguez confirmed the attack, but denied it had been staged against government property. According to the officer's report, two men traveling on a motorcycle threw two hand grenades near the Government House, which is beside the Presidential Palace.

Col Dominguez explained that the grenades did not cause any damage to the Presidential Palace, but did cause minor damage to some nearby commercial establishments.

The radio reports agreed in stating that the grenades were hurled at the Government House, and that the damage to other adjoining establishments was caused by the shots fired by the guards posted at the official government residence.

Guatemalan Chief of State General Oscar Mejia Victores was not in the residence at the time of the attack, a government spokesman confirmed to ACAN-EFE.

HONDURAS

PRESIDENT SAYS CENTRAL AMERICA CRISIS 'CRITICAL'

PA260431 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0037 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 25 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova today termed the Central American crisis "very critical."

"Today Central America is a region in crisis due to acute political conflicts and terrible social contradictions in which political violence and anarchy predominate," said the president. He added that there are foreign forces in the region that want to "stop every effort to achieve peaceful progress in these nations."

The Honduran president spoke today before the National Congress at the start of its second legislative session delivering a state of the nation address covering the last 2 years.

Suazo Cordova referred to Central America to illustrate the difficult conditions that existed when he assumed the Presidency.

"At this point in history we are in a strategic geopolitical area, in terms of international relations," he said.

Suazo Cordova warned the deputies that they must work "overtime, if possible," to move the nation forward and to convert it into a stabilizing in the region. He added: "A dramatic struggle is being waged in Central America between those of us fighting for freedom and justice and those wishing to destroy the spiritual values and Christian concepts that exist in the hearts of men."

He added that, under these conditions, "We have had to firmly overcome obstacles. The situation is difficult due to the repercussion of international and regional factors that stem from the same circumstances constituting the Central American crisis."

He said that the region's crisis creates "daily frustrations" due to international political circumstances and their repercussions on internal events.

"It would seem that the regional crisis minimizes or overshadows our advances in all fields. However, this is not so; we are advancing with assurance and with confidence in the future."

JOINT MILITARY MANEUVERS WITH U.S. APPROVED

PA260535 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 25 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, said today that U.S. and Honduran troops will participate in a third round of military maneuvers in Honduras.

"We have President Roberto Suazo Cordova's authorization, so the high military command is preparing for the maneuvers," Alvarez said.

He did not say when the maneuvers are scheduled to begin. A U.S. Embassy spokesman in Tegucigalpa confirmed General Alvarez' announcement and said that the details on the maneuvers "would be revealed at the proper time."

Gen Alvarez said that the exercises will take place in the western sector of Honduras, near the Salvadoran border.

Honduras, the staunchest U.S. ally in Central America, has been the site of two sets of joint military maneuvers in the last year, the first near the Nicaraguan border and the second in the Atlantic coastal area.

These maneuvers, the largest ever held in the region, involved up to 5,500 U.S. soldiers and 4,000 Honduran troops.

Nicaragua has charged that the exercises constitute a covert U.S. maneuver to provide military and logistical support to the anti-Sandinist rebels who are struggling against the Nicaraguan Government, thus increasing fear of a U.S.-led invasion from Honduras.

PAZ BARNICA DENIES MISKITO MASSACRE CHARGE

PA261716 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Letter from Foreign Affairs Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman; no date given; read by announcer]

[Text] Mr Minister: I address Your Excellency to acknowledge receipt of your note dated yesterday, in which you report that the Nicaraguan Government has learned that Adolfo Perez Esquivel, winner of the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize, has charged that approximately 200 Nicaraguan Miskito Indians were killed at a point on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border by a Honduran military patrol. According to Mr Perez Esquivel, the alleged killing occurred on 6 January while the Miskito Indians were trying to return to Nicaraguan territory.

Your Excellency adds that this report coincides with other charges of mass violations of the right to life which the Nicaraguan Government has been receiving from citizens of Miskito origin who have managed to escape from Honduras and return to their homeland, for which reason Nicaragua demands a rigorous and urgent investigation of this charge and punishment of the guilty parties.

In response, I begin by stating to Your Excellency that on this same date I have addressed the Honduran ambassador to Argentina in order for him to contact Mr Perez Esquivel and determine if he actually raised this serious -- as well as unfounded -- charge. If this was so, I cannot but regard it as a very unfortunate charge, because on the date of the alleged killing Mr Perez Esquivel was visiting Honduras, where -- as he told the media -- there is a democratic government that guarantees the absolute freedom of the press. The fact that, upon learning of the imaginary massacre, he failed to report it to the Honduran and foreign newsmen who exercise their profession in this country without any censorship appears inconsistent. Probably, Mr Perez Esquivel unwittingly confused Honduras with Nicaragua because in my country, Mr Minister, we do not persecute and much less murder the Nicaraguan Miskito Indians who have entered Honduras as refugees to escape the treatment they receive from their own government.

This is not a capricious view, because the following is said about Nicaragua on pages 15-16 of the 1982-1983 Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights: During the period under review, a state of emergency was also maintained in Nicaragua which, when combined with the existence of laws that grant discretionary powers to the executive branch, allowed abuses to be committed against political dissidents, many of whom were arbitrarily arrested, placed in solitary confinement, and held in jail for periods longer than those allowed by the laws in effect on this subject. Other cases that are a special source of concern to the Commission -- besides those of hundreds of Miskito Indians, which will be the subject of a special report being prepared by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights -- are those of the leaders of the Democratic Conservative Party.

Moreover, today's issue of the San Pedro Sula newspaper LA PRENSA carries a statement by Brooklyn Rivera, an authentic Miskito leader of well-known honesty who is currently in exile in Costa Rica, in which he directly charges the Nicaraguan Government with systematically exterminating the Miskito people, which is a crime of genocide.

Once more the Honduran Government asserts that the Nicaraguan Miskitos who are in our country have entered it voluntarily, have been received for purely humanitarian reasons, and are given protection -- which has been attested to by the representatives of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to members and officials of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights who have visited our country and verified on site the adequate manner in which the Honduran Government treats the Miskito refugees.

In view of the foregoing, and without prejudice to the respect Mr Perez Esquivel deserves, the Honduran Government most emphatically denies the slanderous charge that the Honduran Army has murdered 200 Miskitos. This can be verified through any impartial investigation that may be carried out. It would categorically prove that it is in Nicaragua, and not in Honduras, that Miskitos are being persecuted and exterminated.

I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my highest consideration.

[Signed] Edgardo Paz Barnica, Honduran Foreign Affairs Secretary

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT ANNOUNCES REFUGEE RELOCATION

PA260500 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Press communique issued by the Foreign Secretariat's Directorate of Press and Information; date not given]

[Text] The Honduran Foreign Secretariat has addressed ambassadors accredited before the Honduran Government, Honduran ambassadors abroad, and international organizations to inform them of its decision -- made in coordination with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR -- to relocate immigrants who are currently at the Colomoncagua, San Antonio, and El Tesoro camps to the country's interior.

It has been a constant concern of President Roberto Suazo Cordova's government to help the thousands of refugees in our country to find a safer and more dignified way of life.

The area that has been selected for this relocation is in the neighborhood of Olanchito, Yoro Department, where voluntary agencies that generously assist the refugees will purchase land, in compliance with the Honduran Government's decision, as requested by the UNHCR, which has found this to be appropriate and necessary. This land will be used by the National Agrarian Institute for the implementation of agrarian reform projects, once conditions permit the safe return of these refugees to their own countries. This measure will also enable these displaced people to grow crops for their own nourishment and will provide them with greater freedom of movement.

The relocation will take place in two phases, beginning with the Colomoncagua, San Antonio, and El Tesoro camps. The Colomoncagua camp will become a center for arriving refugees and will function like the centers at La Virtud and Guarita, where protection and assistance is given to any new refugee entering Honduras.

Once the first phase is completed, and following an evaluation by the National Commission for Refugees and the UNHCR, a definite decision will be made on the transfer of refugees who are now at Mesa Grande, in Ocotepeque Department. Similar measures are being implemented on Nicaraguan refugees in the area of La Mosquitia, who are being transferred to the Mocoron camp, in the interior, and later to the (Batuca) region.

In making this decision, the government reiterates its determination to ensure that the coordination of the program to assist refugees continues to be the responsibility of the UNHCR, which means that this institution will continue to be in charge of coordinating all activities carried out by the various volunteer agencies, with whom agreements have been signed on the implementation of projects financed by this international institution.

NICARAGUA

D. ORTEGA DISCUSSES U.S. POLICY, C.A. ISSUES

PA261626 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0203 GMT 26 Jan 84

[News conference granted by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua following a meeting with a European Parliament delegation on 26 January; reporters not identified -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] We took advantage of this meeting to emphasize that the danger of intervention against Nicaragua still exists. In my opinion, it is not only important to emphasize this abroad, but also inside our country. This is so because at times we seem to forget that the main danger confronting the Nicaraguan revolution is the aggressive U.S. aggressive policy. Therefore, topics that should not be top issues become priority issues.

We sometimes overlook the fact that Nicaraguans are dying daily, victims of the criminal policy of the U.S. Government against the Nicaraguan people.

We stressed this point to the European parliamentarians. We also pointed out how U.S. policy is continuing to clash with the peace efforts that are underway in Latin America. A meeting of the Contadora Group was held recently. Since then, well-known U.S. Government spokesmen, such as Mr Motley and now Mr Negroponte in Honduras, have confirmed that studies are underway for the installation of a U.S. military base in Honduras. This would mean there would be two military bases in Honduras. Let's be frank, there is already a military base in Honduras, which they have disguised as a training base. Now they are trying to install a second military base, which logically would have more resources, more military means, in order to perpetuate or try to perpetuate the U.S. presence in Honduras, and in this way threaten Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Another topic we discussed is one of the most current issues today, which is our economic growth. This topic has much to do with international cooperation, and much to do with the cooperation that European countries and the EEC have been giving and will continue to give to Central American countries, particularly to Nicaragua. We mentioned how in Nicaragua's case there is a great effort on the part of the people, great ability on the part of the revolutionary government and its technical cadres, and great action by the working masses, who have made possible an economic growth rate of 5 percent -- 5.1 percent, to be more exact.

We will see growth in investments. Fruits of investments are not seen overnight. When a peasant sows corn, he does not eat corn the next day; he must wait a few months before he can eat corn, and the same thing applies to beans. The revolution has projects that will change the old economic structures on which the economy that oppressed the workers was based. Therefore, we will see the fruits in the middle and long terms.

We have just gone through a tremendous international crisis, and this is addition to the U.S. military and economic attacks on Nicaragua that have led international cooperation organizations to block their aid and cooperation to Nicaragua. As I said, international cooperation in this area continues to be of great importance, in this case the cooperation we may receive from European countries that will not yield to U.S. pressure. Some European countries, some European governments against their people's will, have yielded to U.S. pressure and have frozen their cooperation with Nicaragua.

[Reporter] Commander, is there any additional news about the 200 Nicaraguan Miskitos murdered in Honduras?

[Ortega] Well, what we know is the charge made by Mr Perez Esquivel. The Foreign Ministry has issued a statement regarding the matter and has demanded an investigation of these criminal actions, which confirm U.S. policy against the Nicaraguan people, regardless of their ethnic background. In this case, the Miskito population was the victim of the terrorist policy of the U.S. Administration.

[Reporter] Commander [?I heard) in Tegucigalpa that there is already news at the U.S. Embassy that a new round of maneuvers will be held this year. In addition, it appears that in a few days an airborne operation will be staged in the zone of Aguacate, which was the base that the counterrevolution occupied (?and continues) to occupy.

[Ortega] We must keep in mind that all these U.S. maneuvers are aimed at attacking the Nicaraguan people and show the real interest and policy of the United States.

The United States wants to appear concerned about peace in Central America. However, no one is deceived any longer in this regard. The United States has not taken one step toward peace in Central America. Here everyone has made efforts for peace in Central America. These efforts have been made in the framework of Contadora. Nicaragua has made great efforts. We in Central America are concerned about the crisis and favor peace. The United States, on the other hand, has done nothing for peace in Central America and instead is increasing its military presence.

[Reporter] Commander, how do you see the inauguration of Lusinchi, the presence of Nicaragua in Venezuela?

[Ortega] Well, we are going to be present. We are going to be present at the inauguration of Lusinchi in Venezuela. This presence has to do with Nicaragua's relations with Venezuela and the relations among the Latin American peoples, to provide a Latin American presence in Caracas on this occasion. We believe a Latin American presence in Venezuela is important at this time to help form a common Latin American front that will permit us to face the common economic, political, and security problems and to defend the sovereignty of Latin America, which is today more threatened than ever.

REAGAN'S STATE OF UNION ADDRESS REPORTED

PA261843 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Washington -- In his fourth State of the Union address delivered from the White House [as heard] yesterday, President Ronald Reagan urged the U.S. people to unite to keep the United States strong, secure, and at peace.

The time has come to again move forward, for the United States to take the next step toward peace, said Reagan, 4 days before announcing his candidacy for presidential re-election.

Reagan, whose administration has been the target of strong criticism, said the heart of the United States is strong, generous, and true. The cynics were wrong; the United States was never a sick society, Reagan said. We have no territorial ambitions. We are not occupying any country. We do not build walls to imprison anyone. [announcer exclaims "wow" ("que barbaro")] Reagan said all this and expressed the conviction that the future of any nation is better decided by votes than by bullets.

FOREIGN MINISTER SENDS PROTEST TO HONDURAS

PA270400 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 27 Jan 84

["Text" of "protest note" sent by Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica on 26 January]

[Text] Mr Minister, I am addressing Your Excellency to report the following:

On 24 January a group of Somozist mercenaries coming from Honduran territory invaded the El Zapote farm owned by Falix Pedro Molina, 16 km northwest of Wiwili, kidnapping six peasants. They are Santiago Gomez, 13; Nicolas Ritter, 15; Jose Zuniga, 18; Joaquin Perez, 20; Porfirio Zuniga, 20; and Cristobal Lasso, 20.

Upon lodging a formal and strong protest of these incidents, the Nicaraguan Government reiterates its most urgent appeal that the Honduran authorities stop permitting the use of Honduran territory for criminal actions against the Nicaraguan people.

My government further demands the release and immediate return of all the kidnapped peasants, as we have previously requested.

I take this opportunity to reiterate my highest esteem for Your Excellency.

[Signed] Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, foreign affairs minister

OPPOSITION CALLS FOR TALKS INCLUDING SOMOZISTS

PA261933 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] The opposition Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board today urged the Sandinist government to hold a national dialogue that includes former Somozist guardsmen. The Sacasa Board also asked for an answer to a document that it issued in December of 1983, calling for the democratization of the country.

At a news conference, Jose Espinoza, vice president of the board, announced that a number of activities will take place in the coming months to promote the document, including new tours abroad and the promotion of a meeting of the ambassadors of democratic countries in Nicaragua.

According to the Sacasa Board, the Sandinist government should hold a national dialogue with all the country's sectors, including former Somozist leaders. The opposition leaders compared the counterrevolutionary forces with the FMLN guerrillas in El Salvador and argued that the same type of dialogue that is being requested for the solution of the Salvadoran conflict would be valid in Nicaragua.

PORTUGAL'S CUNHAL COMMENTS ON ELECTIONS, LEAVES

PA261932 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the Communist Party of Portugal, said on leaving for his country today that the FSLN will win an absolute victory in the 1985 elections. During his stay of several days in Nicaragua, Cunhal met with various political organizations and top-ranking government officials. He was also invited to attend an extraordinary session of the State Council where features of the new Nicaraguan electoral law were discussed.

The Portuguese political leader said the Sandinist revolution is creating a new society, and that the FSLN and its people are certain to be victorious over their enemies in the struggle for national independence.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION ISSUES OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE

PA260546 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the State Council's Directorate of Press and Public Relations in Managua on 24 January]

[Text] The Electoral Commission, which was created on 21 September 1983 to prepare the electoral law, acting through the State Council's Press and Public Relations Office, wishes to declare, in response to reports that have appeared recently in various political circles, the media, and international news agencies on the first draft of the electoral law and all topics involving the electoral process, that:

1. Only the statements and/or information issued by the president and the secretary of the Electoral Commission, Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez and Deputy Commander Rafael Solis Cerda, respectively, should be considered official information.
2. Companero Manuel Eugarrrios, a State Council representative, has been named the official spokesman for the Electoral Commission. He is responsible for controlling the level of information on the electoral plan.
3. As for the draft of the electoral law, an initial draft was presented to the Electoral Commission on Saturday, 21 January, for study, revision, proposals, and recommendations, so as to provide a basis for the preparation of the official draft of the electoral law that the Commission will present to the State Council plenum.
4. Therefore, since the official draft of the electoral law has not yet been presented to the State Council, no opinion expressed by a political party, by an organization, or by the media can be regarded as a definite aspect of the electoral law.
5. Since no electoral law yet exists, it is improper for any political party, organization, or news agency to mention the nomination of candidates or the start of electoral campaigns until this document has been legally established.
6. The Electoral Commission asks the political organizations to reflect on the situation, to assume their tasks responsibly, to avoid creating confusion among the people, and to follow the regulations established in the Political Parties Law and in the decree approved by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction on 4 December 1983.

7. The correspondents of the national media and the international press are asked to consult Manuel Eugarríos, official spokesman for the Electoral Commission, at the State Council Press and Public Relations Office whenever their reports refer to the preparation of the draft electoral law or the debate taking place at the plenum.

VOICE OF SANDINO ON OPPOSITION 'SECRET DOCUMENT'

PA250426 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 24 Jan 84

[Text] Despite the latest opening measures decreed by the communists in Managua and aimed at orchestrating the elections to be held in 1985, the Nicaraguan opposition has once again denounced before the world the totalitarian government's continuing its program to implement a repressive, totalitarian system. In a document released secretly to the press because of censorship, [the opposition] has requested greater freedom of expression and has criticized the disastrous public administration and all the services organized by the FSLN, whom they accuse of exerting permanent pressure on the people, who are under constant surveillance.

The members of the opposition state that, as in the past, the public employees continue to be subject to the conditions imposed by the frontist party. They have accused the Marxist-Leninist government of granting or allowing a sectarian [word indistinct] because all employees are asked to have a guarantor's signature, which is a piece of paper signed by a member of the FSLN in which the member states that he is responsible for the person's conduct.

The Nicaraguan opposition has stated that the confusion between state and party has advanced to such an extent that a typical example can be seen in the Armed Forces and the police. The two are inseparable appendages of the communists in Nicaragua.

This document was also sent to Venezuelan President-elect Jaime Lusinchi, to the European Community, and other democratic governments.

COMMENTATORS REACT TO STATE OF UNION MESSAGE

FL262125 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 26 Jan 84

["International Commentary" by Irma Caceres of the PRENSA LATINA staff and television commentator Pedro Ventura, during the "Revista de la Manana" program -- live]

[Text] [Ventura] Last night U.S. President Ronald Reagan gave a speech before Congress and the American people. He spoke specifically on U.S.-Soviet relations, which he had also touched on in his 16 January speech, as well as other foreign policy issues.

A few hours ago, Yuriy Andropov, the Soviet Union's top leader, was interviewed by PRAVDA and analyzed the present world situation, the danger of a nuclear war, and U.S.-Soviet relations. Since this subject is of great interest, not only for us but for all of mankind, today we will talk with Irma Caceres about it.

[Caceres] In effect, we can say that the main points in Reagan's speech last night before Congress had already been covered by Reagan in a previous speech, by certain U.S. officials at international conferences, through statements made by spokesmen, etcetera. We can summarize that in these two speeches, and specifically in yesterday's speech to the nation, the U.S. President tried to satisfy everyone by reiterating the U.S. political position during his 3 years in office. We say this because we cannot forget that it is being reported that it is almost certain that the President will in 3 or 4 days announce that he will run for re-election. That is to say that the speech the President made last night had a great political content; we should not forget this. I think this is why he tried to satisfy both Democrats and Republicans, as if there were no differences or problems from either the domestic or international point of view.

Still, in international relations the ties between the Soviet Union and the United States play a major role, as well as the current U.S. attempt to appear willing to hold talks, make reductions, or take other positive steps toward peace. But, as Yuriy Andropov told PRAVDA, the problem is that this talk by the U.S. should be put into practice, through concrete steps which are truly for peace.

I don't think this was ever mentioned in last night's speech during which the U.S. President announced new plans for exploration of outer space costing more than \$8 billion. This is proof that the United States will try to use outer space for military purposes.

[Ventura] It is important to emphasize that Reagan's speeches, and not only his speeches but the statements made by many of his advisers -- on security and other matters -- have recently emphasized that the United States is stronger now than in previous years. This is an attempt to create a situation with the Soviet Union -- which the United States has historically attempted so that it can negotiate from a position of strength. On the other hand, it should be pointed out that his speeches have been filled with generalized rhetoric. With this constant talk it is difficult...[changes thought] For example, in the 16 January speech, Reagan discussed the need to reduce the number of nuclear weapons and to talk with the Soviet Union. He also referred to many other needs, but did not say anything concrete. In the comments that Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov made to PRAVDA a few hours ago, he referred to this matter, saying that it is difficult for the United States to talk with the Soviet Union because it offers nothing concrete, only rhetoric.

There are several points in Andropov's interview that I want to mention. He said that the Soviet Union will not meet just to talk much less enter into discussions with the United States seeking a position of strength. The United States has been constantly proposing talks with the Soviet Union but always from positions of strength. It wants to talk based on military supremacy.

Andropov also stated that it is impossible to pretend that Pershing and cruise missiles are not being installed in Europe at this time. In his 16 January speech and in other speeches, the U.S. President referred to the present European situation and noted that it is more secure now than in previous years. Andropov stressed very clearly that never before had the world been in such imminent danger of a nuclear attack. I think it is important to point this out.

[Caceres] In this speech the U.S. President had the audacity to send a message to the Soviet people on the need to hold talks with the Soviet Union. Nevertheless, we see in all his speeches [words indistinct] a U.S. escalation. I think that when the U.S. President said, among other things, that the United States is stronger in 1984 than it was in 1983 -- this is incredible, but he said that the United States is not involved in a military buildup, that it has not invaded other countries, and that it is not interfering in other nations -- he meant to say that this U.S. strength stems from the installation of new nuclear weapons in Europe. He thus forced the Soviet Union and the socialist nations to implement countermeasures that, for all practical purposes, have been initiated. The U.S. President is, therefore, referring to this. The United States believes itself stronger from the military point of view. But in addition, the United States invaded Grenada. It also has a military presence in Honduras, in Lebanon, and in the Middle East. This shows that from a military point of view, the United States has undertaken military steps and feels stronger. For this reason, Reagan is using words early in the year that show what can be expected from the United States in 1984.

We would like to say that the U.S. leaders have changed their tune, but the truth of the matter is that the U.S. President is now talking about new U.S. frontiers: the exploration of outer space for military purposes. Regarding the huge U.S. budget deficit, which is more than \$2 billion, the President chose not to discuss it. This means that he will not try to reduce the growing U.S. military budget in favor of social problems in the United States. A news agency said that the President touched on so many diverse points in hope of a response from those sectors which have the most pressing problems and which have been the most neglected by government, such as environmental protection, pollution controls, national education, and so on. With this generalized approach, Reagan was evidently trying to convince the domestic and international public that he is the man the United States needs to pursue this policy.

[Ventura] In summary, it can be stated that all this talk was intended to accomplish the following: First, to calm the world and the U.S. public about the tense situation that mankind is experiencing at this time. Secondly, to emphasize that the United States wants to hold talks from a position of strength. Regarding what you said about the insistence of many U.S. leaders, including President Ronald Reagan, that the United States is stronger than ever, it must be said that nuclear arms do not make a nation stronger. This shows the present world situation, and the constant change in various nations that are struggling for liberation from capitalist exploitation.

The United States cannot avoid this with all its nuclear weapons and economic power. This is an historical problem that will be settled one way or another. What this policy might do is drag mankind into a nuclear conflict, which entails the risk that we might all disappear. There is much to be said on this subject.

[Caceres] My opinion is that this talk, as you indicated, has had repercussions in the United States. We could say that the opinion of a large part of the U.S. public has been somewhat influenced by this type of policy, and this has been effective to the extent that -- as the polls have shown -- if President Reagan ran and if elections were held tomorrow, he could again be re-elected. This would mean that mankind would be exposed to a danger if he was re-elected, as you said.

[Ventura] You also mentioned that Reagan had talked about national policies. I think it would be interesting to discuss this. We were saying a few minutes ago that it is incredible that anyone could be as cynical as Reagan on these points. But this will have to be discussed in a future commentary. Thanks for coming here this morning, Irma.

Message Topics Reported

PA261838 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Amid unprecedented police security on Capitol Hill, and with strong political overtones, President Ronald Reagan has reaffirmed his foreign and domestic policies.

In the traditional speech on the state of the union, delivered before a joint session of Congress, Reagan emphasized the need to maintain the growth in the military budget in order to negotiate from a position of strength. He gave frank signs of his aspirations for re-election to the Presidency while referring to his efforts to achieve nuclear arms reductions at the same time that he is deploying new medium-range nuclear weapons in Western Europe.

The U.S. President called for bipartisan support for the so-called Kissinger commission on Central America, and announced the start of the construction of a permanently manned space station. He said that this space station will be built in the next 10 years at a cost of \$8 billion, and he described space as the new U.S. frontier.

The media have said that Reagan's presence gave hope to the millions of unemployed U.S. citizens, to whom the President said: We have not forgotten you.

Speech 'Deceives' Nobody

FL261850 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has spoken at a joint congressional session. In his message to the U.S. nation, the President tried to point out the positive results he has obtained for the country. However, nobody was deceived: It was merely a political speech.

Reagan said that the United States has revived under his administration. What he should actually have said is that he has revived the Monroe Doctrine, given new life to gunboat diplomacy, smothered detente, and led the world and the U.S. people to the verge of a nuclear holocaust.

He had the nerve to say that the United States is now more secure than ever. It seems that Reagan believes that only his missiles are for real. Thus, he has forgotten that in the event of a war, not a single important U.S. center will be spared from the sure impact of the nuclear defenses of socialism.

But Reagan reached the greatest extreme of his cynicism when he noted that the United States has never been the aggressor and that it has not occupied any country. Perhaps he will be corrected by the invaded Grenada, the attacked Nicaragua, the agonized El Salvador, or the occupied Lebanon, because no one who is sane would seriously believe such a lie.

In his speech Reagan showed complete contempt for the real needs of the U.S. people. He forgot to say that more than 40 million U.S. citizens live below the poverty level, that more than 2 million people in his country are homeless, and that unemployment continues at a very high level.

But these matters must not be mentioned when elections are drawing near. It is very certain that the U.S. President will announce his candidacy within the next few days.

RODRIGUEZ RECEIVED IN KREMLIN BY IVAN ARKHIPOV

FL260232 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Today in the Kremlin, Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of Cuba. During their conversation, they discussed several aspects of bilateral relations related to the work of the intergovernmental USSR-Cuba Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, over which Arkhipov and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez preside for their respective countries.

Arrives in Sofia

FL261910 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has arrived in Sofia on a 4-day visit of Bulgaria.

Rodriguez, who is also a member of the party's Politburo, arrived in Sofia from Moscow, where he presided over the 109th meeting of the CEMA Executive Committee. On 24 and 25 January, CEMA reviewed a large number of items related to the implementation of the results of joint technical and scientific studies on national economies. In these work sessions the participants established measures that will make full use of possibilities for reciprocal cooperation in various areas. The meeting also approved resolutions to continue to improve the work of the unified energy systems of member countries.

TALKS BEGIN WITH VIETNAMESE TRADE DELEGATION

FL261545 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Official talks between representatives of the Cuban and Vietnamese Governments have begun in this capital to discuss bilateral negotiations in various areas of the economy.

The Cuban delegation is headed by Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas and includes Foreign Trade Vice Minister Andres Yebra Garcia. The Vietnamese delegation is headed by Foreign Trade Minister Le Khac, Vietnamese Ambassador Hoang Luong, and other officials.

In the talks the two sides analyzed the development of their trade, particularly that of the past 3 years of the current 5-year period. They were pleased to observe how, despite the effects of the war and the natural disasters experienced by the Vietnamese people, bilateral trade has increased.

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH SPAIN

FL262051 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1345 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Madrid -- Three agreements on cooperation between Cuba and Spain were signed [words indistinct] in fulfillment of orders emanating from the first meeting of the Cuba-Spain Joint Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation, recently held in Havana.

CUNHAL ARRIVES FROM NICARAGUA, LAUDS REVOLUTION

FL261507 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Upon his arrival in this capital, Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP], stated: I have seen in Nicaragua a determined people who are bent on defending their revolutionary achievements. Cunhal has just completed a visit to Sandino's homeland.

Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Politburo and chief of the Central Committee's General Department of Foreign Relations, greeted the Portuguese communist leader at the airport.

Cunhal was very enthusiastic about the accomplishments he observed in this sister nation in Central America. The PCP actively supports the Nicaraguan revolution and reaffirms its solidarity with what is currently there, Cunhal noted.

HART MEETS WITH POLISH CULTURE MINISTER

FL261516 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Armando Hart, member of the party's Politburo and culture minister, today received Polish Culture and Art Minister Kazimierz Zygulski, who is visiting our country as head of an official delegation. During the meeting, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, the two ministers discussed various cultural aspects, exchanged views, and noted that there is a possibility of further cooperation between the countries.

CROMBET SPEAKS AT FOOD INDUSTRY WORKERS' EVENT

FL261505 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Jaime Crombet, member of the party's Secretariat, has presided over a national event held in Pinar del Rio to commemorate the Day of Food Industry Workers. Crombet spoke at the event and recalled the development of the sector over the past 25 years of our revolution.

Referring to the tasks carried out in the food industry sector in 1983, Crombet said that although the Ministry of Food Industry had expected a 15-million peso loss, it reported earnings instead. He also recalled that the ministry will render accounts to the National Assembly of the People's Government, a fact that must result in a mobilization of the masses and an incentive to surpass goals with top quality. He said that the production of canned meat and ice cream, among other products, was remarkable. All of this, Crombet added, was achieved in one of the most difficult years we have experienced in the revolutionary period.

ANC, SWAPO REPRESENTATIVES MEET AUSTRALIANS

FL262030 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] A group of the first contingent of the Australian brigade visiting Cuba has held talks with leaders of the African National Congress [ANC] and the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO].

(Alex Laguna) and (Helmut Angula), representatives of the ANC and SWAPO, respectively, in Cuba and Latin America, briefed the Australians on the situation in South Africa and the Pretoria racist regime's aggressive policy. The members of the Australian brigade posed questions on the South African liberation movement and the characteristics of the struggle for Namibia's independence. The African representatives noted that their continent is continuing the struggle for definitive independence.

U.S. AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA STIRS CONTROVERSY

FL261925 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1240 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Recent statements made by the U.S. ambassador to Costa Rica over its internal affairs have provoked a controversy, even including President Luis Alberto Monge.

The head of state summoned Curtin Winsor, the White House's representative in San Jose, to his residence to express his displeasure over Winsor's statements, which according to the press have angered Monge very much. Winsor stated to the press that the ruling party, the National Liberation Party [PLN], was responsible for the country's future and exhorted it to act more pragmatically. The PLN political leadership responded in an angrily worded communique that it is unheard of a foreign ambassador -- no matter how friendly his country is -- intervening in domestic political affairs.

RIVALRY SEEN AMONG SALVADORAN POLITICAL PARTIES

PA262014 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 25 Jan 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The corruption prevailing in the Salvadoran oligarchy's political circles is becoming more and more evident as the elections organized by the Salvadoran regime draw near. The political propaganda campaigns of the candidates for the March elections only show the rivalry among the ruling groups in El Salvador.

The Salvadoran regime has given \$200,000 in campaign funds to each candidate, none of whom is making a realistic or in-depth analysis of the serious economic, social, political, and military situation faced by the country. The rivalry between the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and the ultraright ARENA, the Nationalist Republican Alliance, is now concentrated on personal attacks on the candidates.

ARENA, whose presidential candidate is former Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, alleged head of the death squads, has accused Christian Democrat Jose Napoleon Duarte of having provoked what ARENA has described as terrorism, communism, and lies in El Salvador.

The National Conciliation Party [PCN], which for years has resorted to political methods based on systematic criminal violence, has blamed Duarte for the serious situation in El Salvador. The PCN, ARENA, and also the rightist Salvadoran Popular Party have long been absent from the sessions of the Legislative Assembly because they do not admit the PDC's leadership. However, despite its public statements, the PCN has just entered into an alliance with the PDC, which controls the assembly leadership, in order to hold important posts in that legislative organ.

All indications are that this alliance has no solid basis. A woman deputy from the ultrarightist ARENA said recently in San Salvador that her party's principles are directly opposed to those of the PDC, and stressed that ARENA will steer clear of the legislative branch, which further complicates the political crisis in the Salvadoran's regime's circles.

However, the most serious thing is not the struggle for power within the Salvadoran regime's political circles. The Commission on Defense of Human Rights [Commission de Defensa de los Derechos Humanos] headed by Robert White, former U.S. ambassador to San Salvador, has accused National Police Chief Colonel Reinaldo Lopez Nuila of directing the so-called Secret Anticommunist Army under the pseudonym of Aquiles Baires, and Treasury Police Colonel Nicolas Carranza of being the head of other paramilitary bands that operate in complicity with that police corps. The commission headed by White roundly condemned presidential candidate Roberto D'Aubuisson as a pathological murderer, and accused him of organizing the assassination of Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero and many revolutionary leaders.

The criminal methods used by the political circles of the Salvadoran oligarchy represent the worst type of political corruption. For years the Salvadoran revolutionary forces have been criticizing the official ties between the regime and the paramilitary groups. The people have no valid option in these elections, from which the revolutionary and democratic forces are barred [proscriptas]. They would have to vote for one of the genocidal murderers, who are well-known for their lack of ability and their betrayal of the people's interests.

The people's only real alternative is the FMLN's victorious struggle. It represents a real hope for a better future of freedom, justice, democracy, and true independence.

NICARAGUA ADDS PARTIES TO STATE COUNCIL

PA262110 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The Social Democratic Party and the Communist Party of Nicaragua were incorporated into the State Council by a decree approved by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. The State Council is now composed of 50 members, representing 9 political parties and 41 popular, union, social, and private organizations.

State Council President Carlos Nunez said yesterday in Managua that the rightist parties have shown fear of the elections they so vehemently demanded. Nunez stressed that these political organizations fear the 1985 elections because they know they lack the social support to emerge victorious.

Political Parties Law Approved

PA262354 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Nicaraguan State Council has approved the Political Parties Law as part of the institutionalization process occurring in the country. As of today, the political parties have a 15-day deadline to register at the Supreme Court of Justice, prior to the installation of the political parties' national assembly.

The law authorizes the reception of various donations by the Nicaraguan political parties. These donations will be regulated by a law currently in effect. The electoral law will be discussed soon, and should be approved next July.

SPEEDBOAT ATTACKS ON NICARAGUA FROM U.S. SHIPS

PA261552 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Nicaragua has charged that the speedboats that attack Nicaraguan civilian and economic targets presumably operate from U.S. war vessels.

In a communique issued in Managua, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry charged that two boats and an unidentified plane attacked the fishing boat "Carlos Fonseca Amador" in Nicaraguan territorial waters last Saturday. The communique added that the action occurred 1.5 km from Puerto Sandino. Later, the communique said, the speedboats and the plane withdrew toward the southeast. The fishing boat did not suffer any damage.

The Foreign Ministry charge points out the presence for an indefinite length of time of U.S. war vessels near the Nicaraguan coast. This leads to the assumption, the communique added, that those ships are used to transport the speedboats that continually attack Nicaragua.

According to other reports, the Sandinist government has asked several international human rights organizations for their cooperation in order to clarify the massacre of 200 Miskito Indians that were trying to return to Nicaragua from Honduras. This charge was reported to Nicaraguan authorities by Argentine Nobel Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel.

In addition, Xavier Chamorro, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United Nations, has accused the United States of maintaining a warlike, aggressive policy toward Central America, especially toward Nicaragua. During an informal meeting with newsmen at the United Nations in New York, the Nicaraguan representative condemned the CIA actions against his country and the support for counterrevolutionaries. Chamorro said that Washington is determined to implement a military solution for Central America in order to prevent the triumph of a popular revolution in the area, and accused Honduras of having become a U.S. gendarme in the area.

COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT MEETS WITH FMLN-FDR MEMBER

FL261742 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] According to reports from Bogota, President Belisario Betancur Cuartas has received FMLN-FDR member Mario Aguinada at the Government Palace in Bogota. Aguinada disclosed that he gave President Betancur Cuartas a detailed explanation of the current situation in El Salvador, and supplied new evidence of U.S. preparations to invade that small country. He said that 'Big Pine II', the new joint military maneuvers, and the mobilization of a large number of troops to the border shared by Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador are clear actions in this direction.

ATTACKS, STRIKES, 'REPRESSION' CONTINUE IN PERU

PA270302 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Some 20 bombs have been thrown at the Lima headquarters of the Directorate for Penal Institutions; other such bombs were thrown at a military club and a Catholic college. Seven other similar attacks have been reported in the Peruvian capital. The directorate for Penal Institutions headquarters suffered considerable damage from the explosions. According to reports, both political and other prisoners are mistreated there.

The Communist Unity Party of Peru has condemned the increased government violence and urged the people to organize a common front to fight and defeat repression, and to defend democratic rights. The Lima newspaper EL DIARO MARKA has asserted that some 3,000 reports exist on missing people in the south Andean Department of Ayacucho.

Meanwhile, 30,000 Peruvian bank employees continue the 3d consecutive day of their general strike, while 6,000 workers of the state-owned Pescaperu [Peruvian Fishing Enterprise] began the 3d day of their strike.

INVESTIGATION OF PERUVIAN NEWSMEN'S MURDER ASKED

PA261810 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] The International Organization of Journalists has demanded that the death of eight Peruvian newsmen in Ayacucho on 26 January 1983 be fully investigated and clarified. In a message published in CUADERNOS PERUANOS magazine, the organization paid homage to the dead reporters on the first anniversary of their murder. The message added that the organization's 200,000 members support Peruvian newsmen and asked that this barbaric massacre, one of the most cruel and grievous in the history of world journalism, be fully investigated and clarified.

MEXICO OPPOSES RESTRICTIVE U.S. ECONOMIC POLICY

FL262053 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1911 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Alfredo (Phillips) Olmedo, director of the National Trade Bank [Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior], has stated that Mexico will continue to combat the discriminatory treatment and protectionist measures of the United States affecting Mexican exports and slowing down the country's development.

Referring to the visit that the U.S. secretary of commerce made to Mexico City, the Mexican official rejected the U.S. claim that Mexico subsidizes its exports.

Olmedo stated that this present year the Mexican Government will continue its process of diversification of international economic relations in order not to be dependent on any one market. It is said that the United States blocks Mexican exports as an instrument of political pressure in order to obtain concessions and privileges of every kind.

SELA'S ALEGRETT RAPS IMF ADJUSTMENTS, PROGRAMS

FL261612 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] SELA Permanent Secretary Sebastian Alegrrett has stated that the adjustments imposed by the IMF are causing misery and chaos in Latin America. Alegrrett, who is visiting Mexico, said that the IMF economic programs have led Latin America into a situation of widespread misery, economic chaos, and economic regression which will be hard to overcome.

After noting that measures must be taken to solve this problem, Alegrett added that Latin America must take its economy off the dollar to eliminate the lack of liquidity and for increase trade among countries of the region.

MEXICO'S LABASTIDA VOICES STAND ON OIL PRODUCERS

FL252113 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Francisco Labastida Ochoa, Mexico's secretary of energy, mines, and industry, has stated that despite the international oil crisis, his country will defend the interests of producers of raw materials, particularly petroleum. He added that although Mexico is not an OPEC member, the government will continue to empathize with the problems being faced by the oil market. Labastida Ochoa stressed that his country was acting responsibly in the face of the petroleum crisis in order to defend the interests of the nation and of all the oil producing nations.

Meanwhile, Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister [designate] Arturo Hernandez Grisanti who is visiting Mexico, stated that all OPEC members should respect the policy of the Mexican Government.

PANAMANIAN INTELLECTUALS TO HOST AMITY EVENTS

PA262002 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] A group of Panamanian intellectuals has decided to form a sponsoring committee to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Cuban institution called House of the Americas. The committee's program will include conferences, art exhibits, and recitals.

In a statement to PRENSA LATINA, Panamanian critic Guillermo Castro asserted that the activities of the House of the Americas confirm Jose Marti's claim that whoever is inspired by Cuba is inspired for all times toward the road to Latin American solidarity.

BRIEFS

VILMA ESPIN REELECTED -- Vilma Espin, president of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC], was reelected vice president of the advisory council of the Women's International Institute for Research and Training [Instituto Internacional de Capacitacion e Investigacion de la Mujer] after nomination by (Esther Bossurup) of Denmark. Vilma Espin, as acting president of the council, gave the opening speech for the fourth session period of that UN institute, which is meeting in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jan 84 FL]

COSMONAUT AT PALACE -- Colonel Georgi Invanov, a Bulgarian cosmonaut-pilot, visited the Ernesto Guevara Palace of Pioneers in Havana's Lenin Park, accompanied by Cuban cosmonaut Colonel Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez. [Excerpt] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 19 Jan 84 FL]

DECORATION OF INTERNATIONALISTS -- In a solemn ceremony held at the Santa Maria Hotel in Santiago de Cuba, 350 internationalist fighters of that municipality were decorated in recognition for their attitude. In addition, reserve Captain Leonardo Segura Maderos received the Calixto Garcia Medal, created by the Council of State to recognize the completion of internationalist missions. [Summary] [Havana Television Service in Spanish 1205 GMT 24 Jan 84 FL].

CARICOM MEMBER COUNTRIES MEET ON TRADE ISSUES

FL262201 Bridgetown CANA in English 1856 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 26 (CANA) -- Officials from Caribbean Community (Caricom) member countries are winding up a two-day meeting in Georgetown today with wide differences still on the question of trade and trading arrangements, a spokesman for the Caricom Secretariat told CANA. Much of yesterday was spent trying to overcome procedural issues raised by the Barbados delegate and in the next session, which lasted into the night, the Trinidad and Tobago delegate was pressed for some firm shift in this country's "hard line" attitude in respect of trading licences, the spokesman said. In the end, it was agreed that the ministers, meeting here tomorrow and Saturday, would have the final say about how to resolve trade problems in Trinidad and Tobago, and other Caricom countries, especially Barbados, the spokesman added.

Last year, Trinidad and Tobago placed imports from Caricom countries under a licencing regime -- a move that reduced its imports. The new arrangement was in retaliation to a two-tier currency exchange rate the Jamaica Government introduced. That rate had made goods from other Caricom countries more expensive in Kingston.

Intra-regional trade, trade payments, as well as a common protective policy for agricultural products and livestock will be among the major talking points at the Friday-Saturday meeting.

27-28 JAN CARICOM MEETING DELEGATIONS ANNOUNCED

FL260234 Bridgetown CANA in English 2326 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 25 (CANA) -- The Caribbean Community (Caricom) Secretariat here tonight released the names of eleven delegations to the 24th Caribbean Common Market Council of Ministers' meeting opening in Georgetown on Friday. Grenada and Montserrat have not yet informed the Secretariat whether they will be attending the two-day meeting.

Antigua and Barbuda will be represented by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Lester Bird and Minister Without Portfolio Hugh Marshall, while the Bahamas will be represented by James Moultrie. Barbados' chief delegate will be Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Trade, Tourism, and Industry Bernard St John, while Dominica will be represented by Minister Without Portfolio Senator Charles Savarin. Minister of Economic Development Carl Greenridge will represent Guyana at the two days of talks, expected to deal mainly with trade and economic matters.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Hugh Shearer of Jamaica is coming from Kingston, while St Christopher-Nevis will be represented by Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Finance Richard Caines. The St Lucia delegate will be Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Trade, Industry, and Tourism George Mallet, while St Vincent and the Grenadines will have its Minister of Trade and Agriculture Vincent Beache. Trinidad and Tobago is sending Minister of Industry, Commerce, and Consumer Affairs Desmond Cartey, while Belize will be represented by Foreign Service Officer Miss Rhoda Rogers. A Caricom Secretariat official said Grenada and Montserrat are expected to make some firm announcement by tomorrow.

The meeting is expected to generate a lot of interest, being the first since last October's U.S.-Caribbean invasion of Grenada that left deep divisions in Caricom.

ECCB SAYS NO DEVALUATION OF DOLLAR PLANNED

FL261205 Bridgetown CANA in English 1609 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Jan 25 (CANA) -- The Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) said today that, contrary to speculation circulating throughout the islands, it had no intention of devaluing the eastern Caribbean dollar.

A statement issued by the St Kitts-based [organization] said that the eastern Caribbean dollar would continue to be pegged to the United States dollar at the rate of one U.S. dollar to 2.70 EC dollars. The speculation arose following the recent Jamaica and Guyana government's decision to devalue their currency. The ECCB said that "in view of the apparent speculation... the bank considers it necessary to state...that there are no plans for any change in the external value of the EC dollar."

The ECCB, set up one year ago, serves the seven members of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) -- Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, St Kitts and Nevis, and Montserrat.

EEC DELEGATION TOURING EEC-FINANCED PROJECTS

FL262150 Bridgetown CANA in English 1832 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 26 (CANA) -- A 20-member European Economic Community (EEC) mission left here for Barbados today after saying the Community would never fall down on its commitment to the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) states under the Lome Trade and Aid Convention. Spokesman for the EEC mission, Yves Mersch, said: "Europe has a place with the world in Lome Two and it has never failed to honour its obligations, nor will it deny any part of the agreement to those countries which have been listed to benefit under the conditions spelt out."

The delegation is on a six-country tour to review EEC-financed projects. It will also visit St Lucia, Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, and Jamaica.

Mersch said the mission wanted to "have a look at what is behind the paper work." He remarked that "paper might be misleading." Mersch said the European Development Fund contributed nearly 39 million European Currency Units (ECU) to a number of development projects here. He said Guyana was likely to receive further technical assistance, but gave no figures.

BARBADOSDRILLING SUCCESS MAKES 1984 OIL EXPORTS POSSIBLE

FL260046 Bridgetown, CANA in English 2311 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Bridgetown Barbados, Jan 25 (CANA) -- Barbados is looking to export some of its modest crude oil production because of drilling successes last year, Minister of State With Responsibility for Energy and Natural Resources Clyde Griffith has said here. Speaking during the official launching of a project involving a 26-million-dollar computerised Petro-Canada seismic exploration vessel, Griffith said Barbados' 1983 production of crude oil had increased by some 50 percent over the previous year, outstripping the projections made for next year.

"We have to revise those projections," the minister told the small gathering. He said the export possibilities were accentuated by a lack of storage space and by contractual arrangements with Barbados National Oil Company (BNOC). He said, however, that the export of local crude, the necessary exploration would have to be closely monitored. [sentence as received]

Recent Central Bank figures put crude production here, for the first nine months of 1983, at 267,000 barrels -- a 60 percent increase over the corresponding performance in the previous year. Barbados, which spent 75 million dollars (1 Bdos dollar; 50 cents U.S.) on oil imports in 1982 was projected to end 1983 with a reduced bill of around 56 million dollars. Local crude oil production is running in excess of 1,200 barrels per day and is expected to reach a total of 380,000 for the year, the highest level to date. 1983 was the second consecutive year in which there has been a decline in Barbados' oil import bill. The figure was 92.5 million dollars in 1981.

The new petroleum project here will involve shooting 3,000 metres [words indistinct] into the sea, some 20 miles north west of Barbados to determine the amount of mineral content in the Tobago Basin, which includes St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Grenada. The project is part of a two million dollar programme. Last December, the agreement for the scheme was signed by Peter Towe, chairman of Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation, and Louis Deverteuil, chairman of the Barbados National Oil Company Limited.

DOMINICA

CHARLES SAYS LEFTISTS SEEK HELP TO OUST HER

FL261633 Bridgetown CANA in English 1535 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Jan 26 (CANA) -- Dominica Prime Minister Eugenia Charles has accused a tiny leftist opposition political party here of seeking the help of Eastern bloc states in ousting her government. Miss Charles, the region's lone prime minister, [as received] told a public meeting last night that Dr Williams "Para" Riveiere, secretary general of the Dominica Liberation Movement (DLM), had written Moscow, Libya, Cuba, Bulgaria, East Germany, and Algeria. The prime minister, who is also responsible for security matters, said this had come to light out of documents discovered in Grenada when U.S. and Caribbean forces landed there last October to rout a left-wing military junta that had seized power, killing Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Said Miss Charles: "When the Grenada thing happened, a lot of letters, a lot of private papers of Bishop, (his deputy Bernard) Coard, and (Army commander Hudson) Austin were collected." "Austin's dairy was collected and Austin had an appointment for the week after the day Bishop was killed with a man named Para Riviere of Dominica," the prime minister said. She told supporters: "What is more, letters have been written by Para Riviere to Moscow, Libya, Cuba, Bulgaria, Algeria, East Germany, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) office in Cuba...telling them they want assistance so that they could beat the (ruling) Freedom Party in Dominica."

Miss Charles, who as chairperson of the Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS) played a prominent role in the October intervention in Grenada, said that some of the Riviere letters might actually be published in Dominica. "We think we are going to publish some of these letters, some of them in his own handwriting and some of them typed and signed by him," she said, adding, "I don't think he is going to be able to deny that these things have happened."

In one such letter, Miss Charles said, Dr Riviere had complained that the state-controlled Dominica Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network "is gagged." In another letter, he requested the People's Revolutionary Government in Grenada to ask a senior member of the DLM to deliver lectures in Grenada "so that he could slip away to Cuba." "You can imagine the type of things they bring back in their bags," she told her supporters, calling on them to be vigilant on the question of the security of the state.

PRESIDENT TO ATTEND VENEZUELAN INAUGURATION

FL252024 Bridgetown CANA in English 1623 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Jan 25 (CANA) -- President of the Commonwealth of Dominica, Clarence Seignoret, will represent the state at the February inauguration of Venezuela's president-elect, Dr Jamie Lusinchi, it has been officially announced here. A government statement said that Mr Seignoret will be accompanied by his wife to the ceremony, which will be held in Caracas on February 2. Dominica had earlier said it did not anticipate any change in relations with Venezuela following the election of the socialist Dr Lusinchi.

GRENADAU.S. FUNDS TO IMPROVE ELECTRICITY, WATER

FL261403 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] The U.S. Government has given Grenada \$110,000 to help the island improve its electricity and water systems. The money is part of the \$15-million economic assistance package announced by the U.S. Congress last year. The head of the U.S. mission in Grenada, Tony Gillespie, says most of the \$110,000 will go toward the purchase of power poles, electrical conductors, and transformers for the state-owned Grenada Electricity Services. He said much of the electrical work involves replacing power lines that were knocked down during the U.S.-led military intervention in Grenada last October.

HAITIUN HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERTS TO MEET WITH DUVALIER

FL261950 Hilversum International Service in English 0730 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Two experts in human rights from the United Nations will go to the Caribbean island of Haiti to talk with President Jean-Claude Duvalier about the human rights situation in his country. Several organizations, including Amnesty International and the Organization of Haitian Exiles, have protested the curtailment of political rights and the arrests of opposition leaders on the island. The UN experts will not actually instigate on an-the-spot investigation, but will simply discuss the complaints which the United Nations has received with President Duvalier.

JAMAICASHEARER, VAZ TO ATTEND CARICOM MEETING IN GUYANA

FL260156 Bridgetown CANA in English 2244 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 25 (CANA) -- Jamaica is sending two senior ministers to this weekend's Caribbean Community (Caricom) Council of Ministers meeting in Guyana, which is being read here that Kingston is ready for a thaw in intra-regional relations. The deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and foreign trade, Hugh Shearer, considered here to be the government's most capable negotiator, was leaving here today for Georgetown, accompanied by the minister of industry and commerce, Douglas Vaz.

Relations in the free-trade and functional cooperation grouping of English-speaking Caribbean territories, strained during most of 1983 over trade and currency differences, plunged sharply following last October's U.S.-led military intervention in Grenada, as member states quarrelled bitterly over the action.

Although the Georgetown meeting is mainly to deal with trade and economic matters, the dispatching of Shearer, the regular representative to the Council of Ministers, as well as Vaz, to the meeting, is seen by observers here as a signal from Kingston that it remains interested in the community and would be willing to talk out its problems. Vaz declined to comment to reporters on Jamaica's attitude, but said a foreign ministry spokesman: "If it (Jamaica) is sending the deputy prime minister, it must mean that it is taking the meeting very seriously."

Other officials here also point to this week's conciliatory statements about the community by Barbados' Prime Minister Adams, which might have also helped to influence Jamaica's approach to Caricom. "We (the Foreign Affairs Ministry) have continued to deal with Caricom as a serious matter, and we have not been told not to," the spokesman said.

One diplomat here said that the community countries may well be assessing themselves and coming to the conclusion that "they are better off as the whole." "After all, for the region as a group, Caricom is still the only ball game in town," he said.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

COUNTRY TO SEEK UN SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT

FL262008 Bridgetown CANA in English 1726 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Jan 26 (CANA) -- Trinidad and Tobago is seeking one of the 10 non-permanent seats on the Security Council of the United Nations, Foreign Minister Basil Ince has said. Ince made the disclosure during debate in the Senate yesterday on the country's 1984 budget. He said Trinidad and Tobago will present its candidature for the seat during the regular session of the United Nations Assembly in the last quarter of the year.

Trinidad and Tobago, Ince said, had already indicated its intention to the chairman of the Latin American group of nations at the UN. According to the foreign minister, Latin America will receive increased attention from Trinidad and Tobago this year because of the region's growing importance to the twin-island state since "all indications suggested a necessity of enhanced commercial and wider economic relations."

Ince, however, pointed out that Trinidad and Tobago remained committed to the achievement of a meaningful Caribbean integration movement with all that this implied for the country's foreign policy. The Caribbean Community (Caricom), he suggested, must begin to explore the possibility of an institutional relationship with the Andean group of nations in the Americas. Trinidad and Tobago proposed to "seek endorsement of our Caricom colleagues for this proposal," the minister added.

Within Caricom, Trinidad and Tobago's foreign policy "will be geared, as it has been in the past, to the promotion of a political and economic climate in which the prosperity of all can be pursued," said Ince. "In this context," he added, "access to markets within the terms of the Caricom treaty are of primordial importance."

ECONOMY WEAKENS DUE TO FALL IN OIL PRICES

FL262124 Bridgetown CANA in English 1802 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Jan 26 (CANA) -- Trinidad and Tobago's oil-dependent economy "weakened" last year with the twin-island state's gross development product falling in real terms by four per cent, according to the government 1983 economic review just released here. It stated that primarily as a result of the substantial fall in world oil prices last year, as well as a reduced level of domestic crude production, "the economic circumstances of the country have changed considerably." This was despite the twin-island state having been spared some of the worst aspects of the international recession through the use of its sizeable cash balances and foreign exchange reserves accumulated during the (oil) boom years, the document said.

"In spite of continued growth of the non-oil sectors, there was a progressive deceleration in the growth of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in normal terms, from 4.2 per cent in 1981 to an estimated five per cent in 1982," said the review. It added that while the country's petroleum sector continued to show "a loss of dynamism" with output in nominal terms falling by 16 per cent last year, "in real terms, however, GDP fell by four per cent in 1983." According to the "review", this was "the first such decline in decades."

As a result of these developments -- where only manufacturing experienced an increase in real output -- the "review" said there was "some decline" in employment throughout the economy, particularly in the oil, agriculture, and manufacturing sectors. The unemployment rate consequently rose from 10.3 per cent in 1982 to 11.1 per cent in 1983.

"At the same time, there was a widening of the deficit in the overall balance on government's fiscal operations in 1983," said the report, adding that "whereas total expenditures declined marginally, total revenues fell significantly, mainly because of the developments in the petroleum sector." This deficit was financed by drawdowns on accumulated savings and partly by borrowing on both the local and foreign markets.

It noted that the country's financial sector was also "adversely affected" by the general slowdown in the economy. "Although the money supply tended to decline, there continued to be strong demand for credit, resulting in tighter liquidity conditions and rising interest rates," said the "review."

CABINET INSTALLATION DELAYED AT UNIONS' REQUEST

PA270351 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] The creation of a provisional government in Suriname is facing so many problems that the installation of the new cabinet, which had been scheduled for tomorrow, has been postponed for at least a week. According to Suriname television, the unions requested the postponement. The unions and employers have refused to cooperate at all as long as the state of emergency remains in force and freedom of the press is not guaranteed.

Desi Bouterse, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, wants to address these topics after the provisional government has been installed. The four unions in Suriname will meet tomorrow to discuss the country's current situation.

SNA REPORTS CREATION OF SEVEN-MEMBER COMMITTEE

FL261740 Bridgetown CANA in English 1712 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Jan 26 (CANA) -- Suriname's military rulers have set up a seven-member committee, headed by ex-Internal Affairs and Justice Minister Frank Leeftang, to advise them on the near four-year-old revolution, the official SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) reported today.

SNA said the "Think Tank", installed yesterday, includes "two trade unionists, a representative from the private sector, a representative from the manufacturers' association, an official from the Ministry of Education and an official from the Coordinating Secretariat of the 25th of February (MASS) Movement."

Chairman Leeftang, former minister of internal affairs and justice in the administration that the military asked to resign earlier this month, told the news media that the committee will work closely with the interim administration and the revolutionary leadership. He said its main task is to make recommendations on structures and institutions which will pave the way for the participation of the entire country in the further development of the revolutionary process.

Suriname's Army took power in a February 1980 coup, promising a better deal for workers. It has been under fire for failing to call elections, and only this month bauxite, banking, and transport workers went on strike demanding an end to military rule.

The former minister said that the people would be constantly involved with the revolutionary process.

Yesterday, a five-man financial commission set up by the revolutionary leadership ten days ago handed in its final report. The task of the commission was to propose measures to help the country out of current financial problems.

The commission held consultations with the customs services and the study services of the Central Bank of Suriname, as well as the Ministry of Finance, a member of the commission told the press. He said that the commission also dealt with problems relating to foreign exchange and the budget, and those affecting government funds.

FORMER ADVISER TO BOUTERSE INTERVIEWED

For the text of the Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 7 December 1983 interview with Rudy Kross, former adviser to Army Commander Desi Bouterse, on which an editorial report appeared in the Other Countries section, page V 2, of the 15 December 1983 Latin America DAILY REPORT, see the JPRS LATIN AMERICA REPORT of 11 January 1984 (JPRS-LAM-84-005), pages 114-119.

DOMINICAN REPUBLICHAITIAN EXILES ACCUSE POLICE OF HARASSMENT

FL261417 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] The president of the Dominican Republic has ordered the release of several Haitian exiles who were picked up for questioning. President Salvador Jorge Blanco gave the order on Tuesday. Another group of Haitians remains in the Venezuelan Embassy in Santo Domingo demanding asylum. On Monday they asked for refuge, accusing Dominican police of harassment. The government says there is no basis for the Haitian charges. At the same time, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said the police have been investigating the political activities of some Haitians during the past few days.

PARAGUAYPRESIDENT MEETS NEW SALVADORAN ATTACHE

PY270210 Asuncion Red Privada de Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Excerpts] President Alfredo Stroessner this morning carried out his official activities at the Armed Forces Headquarters. He then received Salvadoran Ambassador Colonel Eduardo Casanova Sandoval, retired, who introduced Major Jose Ricardo Pozo, the new military attache at the Salvadoran Embassy.

OPPOSITION LEADER TRAVELS ON ARGENTINE DOCUMENTS

PY261939 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 26 Jan 84 p 10

[Excerpts] Domingo Laino, vice president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA), who has been in exile for more than a year, has been able to obtain an Argentine identification card and passport to travel to France and Spain.

Laino, who is currently residing in the border city of Posadas (Argentina), obtained the Argentine identification card and passport after a meeting with Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli during his latest trip to Buenos Aires. Laino will travel to Europe early in February. At the invitation of political organizations of Paris and Madrid, he will attend, along with other Latin American politicians, meetings with European parliamentarians and politicians.

URUGUAYANTIGOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATION STAGED IN MONTEVIDEO

PY280132 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0009 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Jan (EFE) -- Several hundred women and children defied the Uruguayan military regime tonight by staging an impromptu demonstration on 18 de Julio Avenue. The antigovernment demonstration lasted for an hour. The security forces merely looked on and checked on the movement of the demonstrators.

There were no serious incidents, although dozens of youths were hit by intelligence officials who managed to infiltrate the demonstrators.

The demonstration, which was organized by a group of mothers of missing and detained persons, was promptly joined by pedestrians and drivers who were on 18 de Julio Avenue, the main street in the Uruguayan capital, during rush hour.

No detentions have been reported, but judging from the fashion in which the police and strike forces acted, it is not ruled out that some detentions will be carried out as soon as the demonstrators are identified.

VENEZUELA

HERRERA DEFENDS ECONOMIC POLICY TO CONGRESS

PA270345 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0159 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Caracas, 26 Jan (EFE) -- The economy, the oil crisis, the issue of Central America, and the nation's foreign debt were some of the basic topics contained in President Herrera Campins' message to the Venezuelan Parliament at the end of his 5-year term.

Herrera devoted most of his speech to a defense of the economic measures implemented by his government since 1979, when he replaced Carlos Andres Perez.

On 2 February, Christian Democrat [as received] Herrera will hand the Venezuelan Presidency over to Social Democrat Jaime Lusinchi, winner of the 4 December elections.

Herrera recalled that he had encountered "huge" economic problems, and that one of his first steps was to place things in the proper perspective, in order to forestall an even worse situation.

He mentioned international economic factors as negative elements that had a great impact on Venezuela in the last 5 years.

Herrera noted that the international oil crisis was not to be overlooked, because it caused Venezuela's oil production and prices to drop, particularly in February 1983.

In this respect, he regretted that the budget had to be reduced in the last 2 years instead of expanded, with a concomitant reduction in government programs.

BRIEFS

RESHUFFLE OF ARMY COMMANDERS -- Brigadier General Octavio Serrano Gualdron has been appointed the commander of the Armed Forces of National Cooperation, FAC, Regional Command No 3 in Maracaibo. Gen Serrano Gualdron is replacing Brigadier General Luis Ramon Contreras Laguado, who has been appointed the commander of the FAC Regional Command No 3 in Caracas. Until now, Gen Serrano Gualdron has been second in command of the Caracas Metropolitan Police. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 7 Jan 84 p 1-12 PA]